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AND
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N° 2029.

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The First Session of 1856 will commence on the 24th of January.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

PATRON—THE MOST HON. THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K.G., Lord Lieutenant of the County.

The First General Meeting of this Society will be held in Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate Street, on FRIDAY, December 14th. The Chair will be taken by THE CHIEF JUSTICE, and the Right Hon. the LORD LONDESBOROUGH, M.H., F.R.S., F.S.A. The attendance at this Meeting of all Members and Friends of the LONDON and MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY is earnestly requested. By order of the Provisional Committee,

GEO. BISKE WEBB, Honorary Secretary (pro tem.)

6, Southampton Street, Covent Garden,

20th November, 1855.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—The Society's exhibition of Photographs will be opened early in January, at the Gallery of the Royal Water Colour Society, No. 5, Pall Mall East. Photographs intended for exhibition must be directed to the Honorary Secretary, at the Gallery, and must be sent in on the 24th, 26th, or 27th of December. The regulations will be sent to the Members of the Society, and may be obtained by others by applying at the Society's Rooms, 21, Regent Street, between the hours of Ten and Four.

ROGER LINTON, Hon. Sec.

LAST WEEK BUT ONE.

FIFTH SEASON.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, SKETCHES, and WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS OF THE BRITISH SCHOOL, including a complete collection of all the Engraved Works after Sir EDWIN LANDSEER, R.A., is NOW OPEN for the Season, at the Gallery, 1, Pall Mall, from Ten to Five o'clock. Admission 1s.; catalogues 6d.

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It has been ascertained that Mr. Strange has left his widow and Six children in a state of great destitution, and no unary donations for their relief are therefore respectfully solicited from those who respect the memory of a great and indefatigable naturalist, to whom the world is indebted, and who lost his life in prosecuting his researches in regions which as yet have been but very partially and imperfectly explored.

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"Fra every part thai flocking faste about,
Bath with gude will, and thare *mobiles* but dout."

Whatever difficulty there may be about the technical terminology, the subject of which the work treats is sufficiently definite and well understood. It relates to decorative art as applied to all the furniture of buildings that cannot properly be regarded as fixtures. While architecture deals with the internal arrangements as well as the external structure of buildings, independently of their being inhabited, the *art mobilier* includes the application of genius and skill to the manufacture of all ornamental objects conveyed into houses, churches, or other buildings for the use of man. In regard to ecclesiastical edifices, it is not always so easy to draw the line of distinction between what may be regarded as

fixtures and what as mobiles. Some funereal monuments, for instance, from their structure and size, almost form part of the churches to which they belong, but generally the application of the word mobiles may be made to every ornamental object not included in the original design or regular plan of the architect or builder. The difficulties in regard to carved altars, stated by Dr. Lushington in his recent decision in the Consistory Court, may also be cited as an instance in point. In regard to the furniture of dwelling-houses, there is less difficulty of assigning the exact place to the *art mobilier*, which may be exercised on an endless variety of objects, according to the usages of different countries, or the fashions of particular times.

It is obvious, therefore, that any descriptive work can only make a selection of modes and forms of decorative art, and M. Labarte's treatise gives in separate chapters notices of the most general as well as most remarkable applications of artistic talent to the objects of domestic life. Thus, Chapter First treats of sculpture, including carving in wood, ivory, and other materials, the subject being presented as far as possible chronologically, so as to show the progress and development of art in this field. Chapter Second treats of painting and calligraphy, including painting on glass, enamel painting, mosaic work, and other branches of art in colouring. Engraving is next taken up, and the chemical and mechanical processes of enamelling occupy a large proportion of the work. The goldsmith's art, in all its branches, is also fully described, and ceramic art is a fertile and varied theme. To some departments of more than ordinary interest, such as Sèvres porcelain and Majolica, and of clockmaking and ornamental armour, special chapters are devoted. The concluding chapter gives notices of Oriental art, including the ingenious and peculiar artistic works of China and Japan. From this outline of the general contents of M. Labarte's work, it will be seen that he discusses most of the branches of ornamental art of which archaeologists and historians take note, and the same principles are capable of an endless variety of applications to the construction and decoration of objects brought into use by the requirements and taste of more modern society. Of the detailed contents of the volume as little idea could be given by detached extracts as of a miscellaneous collection in a museum by a few entries from the catalogue. Some of the biographical sketches of distinguished artists would be more acceptable to general readers. Of these one of the most interesting is that of Bernard Palissy, but as his life and works have recently been made familiarly known in this country, we give part of the notice of a man yet more renowned in the history of decorative art, Benvenuto Cellini:—

"Benvenuto Cellini was born in 1500. After spending nearly two years in the workshop of Michelagnolo, to whom he had been apprenticed at the age of thirteen, he was placed under Antonio di Sandro, another Florentine goldsmith, and artist of great talent. He subsequently worked under different goldsmiths of Florence, Pisa, Bologna, and Sienna, to which latter place he had been banished in consequence of an affray. All the time he could steal from the goldsmith's work, he devoted to drawing and the study of the works of the great masters, particularly those of Michel Angelo, whom he was a passionate admirer. At Pisa, he often visited the Campo-Santo, and zealously copied the antiquities it contains. At the age of nineteen he went to Rome. During the two years

he passed there, on this his first visit, he devoted himself almost exclusively to the study of antiquities, which he only relinquished to work at the goldsmith's art when he found himself in want of money. It may easily be imagined that by following this course, Cellini, who was endowed with great intelligence and a lively imagination, soon became a distinguished artist.

"In 1523, a new quarrel with his neighbours having forced him to fly from Florence, he retired to Rome, where he resided until 1537, with the exception of some months passed at different periods, in Florence, and the time he employed in visiting Mantua, Naples, Venice, and Ferrara. During these fourteen years he established his fame as a goldsmith, and made his most beautiful jewels, as well as the dies for the money of Rome, and the medals of Clement VII. and Duke Alexander. Cellini first went to France in 1537. He was presented to Francis I.; but this prince having left Paris for Lyons, Cellini decided upon returning to Rome.

"He was thence summoned back again by Francis I. in 1540. During nearly five years which he spent at Paris, he executed for the king a large number of fine works, of which the only one remaining is a golden salt-cellar, preserved in the Cabinet of Antiquities at Vienna. Cellini, on his return to Florence, devoted himself to the higher walks of sculpture. It was at this time that he cast his bronze statue of Perseus, and the fine bust of Cosmo I., and he also sculptured in marble a crucifix of natural size, which Vasari considers as the finest thing of its kind ever executed. Yet he did not give up the goldsmith's art, and still made lovely jewels for the Duchess Eleonora. After having spent twenty-five years in the service of the Grand-Duke of Tuscany, as sculptor, goldsmith, and master of the mint; Cellini died in 1561, inadequately recompensed for his great works, but leaving behind him a high and well-deserved reputation.

"There can be no doubt that Cellini was one of the most eminent of artists, and that during his long life-time he made a considerable quantity of pieces of goldsmith's work. We therefore are at a loss to understand a judgment recently pronounced upon this great artist by M. Dussieux, in his 'Recherches Archéologiques sur l'histoire de l'orfèvrerie,' 'Cet homme fit bien quelques ouvrages d'orfèvrerie, mais il eut beaucoup trop d'audace, se vanta avec une impudence incomparable, et c'est autant par ces moyens que par son grand talent, qu'il s'est acquise une réputation colossale. Il est devenu un mythe.'

"Thus Cellini should be regarded as a sort of fabulous being, and the greater number of his fine works in metal as the creatures of his imagination!

"In the writings of Cellini upon which M. Dussieux no doubt relies for sustaining this charge of impudence and boasting, we ought to distinguish between the man and the artist. The man is a boaster, it is true; he is a bully of boundless audacity even in the company of princes, and one who does not shrink from murder to revenge himself upon an enemy. According to his own assertion, it was he who, in defending the Walls of Rome, killed the Constable Bourbon with the shot of an arquebus, and who afterwards commanded the artillery of the Castle of St. Angelo in which Clement VII. was besieged. Admitting that in these recitals there may be great exaggeration, yet still, when the artist is describing some of his works, although he writes as a man who appreciates his own talent, we find nothing which savours of boasting. It is often, as he says himself, in order to teach by examples that he enters into minute details of the works executed by himself. Besides, he knows how to do justice to the talent of the goldsmiths of his time, whom he often places above himself, and sometimes leaves to his workmen the credit of having invented certain processes of which he made use.

"Had we only his autobiography by which to judge of Cellini, we might to a certain extent understand the opinion entertained of him by M. Dussieux; but works of his still exist to attest the

veracity of his memoirs in all that relates to art, and Vasari, his contemporary, who had seen his master-pieces in metal work, has borne witness to the wonderful fertility of his genius, and the high estimation in which his productions were held.

"Let us hear the Italian biographer:—'Cellini, a citizen of Florence, now a sculptor, had no equal in the goldsmith's art, when he followed it in his youth, and was perhaps many years without having any, as well as in the execution of little detached figures or in bas-reliefs, and all the works of this profession. He mounted precious stones so beautifully, and decorated them with such wonderful settings, such exquisite little figures, and sometimes of so original and of so fanciful a taste, that nothing can be imagined superior to them. Nor can we sufficiently praise the medals of gold and silver engraved by him in his youth with incredible care. He made at Rome, for Pope Clement VII., a cope button of admirable workmanship, in which he represented the Eternal Father. In it he set a diamond, cut into a point, surrounded by little children, chased in gold with extraordinary talent. Clement VII. having ordered him to make a chalice of gold, the cup of which was to be supported by the theological virtues, Benvenuto conducted this astonishing work almost entirely to its completion. Of all the artists of his time who tried their abilities in engraving medals of the pope, no man succeeded better than he did, as all those know who possess any or have seen them; therefore all the dies of the money of the Romans were intrusted to him, and never were finer pieces struck. After the death of Clement VII., Benvenuto Cellini returned to Florence, where he engraved the head of Duke Alexander upon the dies of the money; the beauty of these is so great, that many impressions of them are now preserved like valuable ancient medals, and that not without reason, for Benvenuto here surpassed himself. Finally he devoted himself to sculpture and the art of casting statues. In France, while in the service of Francis I., he executed a number of works of bronze, silver, and gold. On his return to his own country, he worked for Duke Cosmo, who first ordered of him several pieces of metal-work, and afterwards some sculptures.'

"What better answer can be given to M. Dussieux?

"In support of the account of Vasari, have we not, as we said before, many works of Cellini to appeal to? To say nothing of the magnificent bronze bust of Cosmo I., or the group of Perseus and Medusa, we may quote the exquisite pedestal of this group, ornamented with statuettes of bronze, and the small model of the Perseus, the dimensions of which bring them more within the vicinity of the higher works of the goldsmith, as sufficient to show what Cellini was capable of in works belonging to that art.

"The pieces of goldsmith's work and the jewels made by his hands, of which the authenticity is indisputable, are, it is true, few in number; one can scarcely include in this list any beyond the beautiful salt-cellars executed for Francis I., the money he made for Clement VII. and Paul III., the medal of Clement VII., and that of Francis I., and lastly, the mounting of a lapis-lazuli cup with three handles in enamelled gold enriched with diamonds, and the cover in enamelled gold, of another cup in rock-crystal, which are preserved in the Cabinet of Gems of the Florence Gallery, and had had from the sixteenth century a place in the treasury of the Medici.

"Since Cellini laboured as a goldsmith for more than fifty years, as he served Clement VII., Paul III., Francis I., and the Dukes of Florence in that capacity, it cannot be doubted that he made a large number of pieces of goldsmith's work and jewels; all cannot have perished, and assuredly many works of his, besides those just enumerated, must still be in existence.

"After having carefully examined Cellini's works in sculpture, together with his authenticated pieces of goldsmith's work and jewels, in order to be thoroughly conversant with his style, and after having studied in his published treatise the artistic

processes he employed, we may feel ourselves justified in pointing out several pieces, which, though not so well authenticated as those above mentioned, may yet, with some degree of certainty, be looked upon as specimens of his skill."

Of the extent of the knowledge and variety of the researches of M. Labarte, sufficient evidence appears in the list of artists mentioned in the work, which includes between five and six hundred names. Architects, armourers, cabinet-makers, caligraphers, chasers, clockmakers, damasceners, draughtsmen, enamellers, engravers, glassmakers, goldsmiths, ivory-carvers, keramists, lapidaries, locksmiths, painters, modellers, sculptors, are included in the category of decorative artists. A description of the numerous and beautifully executed woodcuts is prefixed to the volume. The notes of the translator contain many valuable facts, and among the illustrations appear some of the most remarkable specimens in both the private and public collections in this country.

Eight Years' Wanderings in Ceylon. By S. W. Baker, Esq. Longman and Co.

For single young gentlemen, inspired with a more than ordinary love of adventure, fortified by plentiful means, there is nothing like emigrating to some distant uncleared land of jungles and wild beasts, with notions of colonization. Mr. Baker made an excursion some ten years since to the beautiful island of Ceylon, and became so impressed with the repose of its noiseless solitudes and wildernesses, and exciting sports, that the tedium of polished society at home was utterly insufferable. No sooner did the traveller return to England than he repaired again to the land of tanks and cinnamon gardens, and diving into the interior, resolved to raise an entirely new settlement in a locality where he might so "change the rough face of nature as to render a residence there something approaching a country life in England." The spot chosen was at the eastern extremity of the plain of Newera Ellia. "I wandered," says the emigrant, "over the neighbouring jungles, and at length stuck my walking stick into the ground where the gentle undulations of the country would allow the use of the plough. Here, then, was to be my settlement." Mr. Baker engaged a bailiff with his wife and daughter, and ten other hands, including a blacksmith, and provided himself with a variety of farming implements, seeds, saw-mills, &c., and a thorough-bred menagerie of bulls, cows, rams, horses, and fox-hounds. He started himself, in advance, to prepare the site:—

"It was in the dreary month of October, when the south-west monsoon howls in all its fury across the mountains; the mist boiled up from the valleys, and swept along the surface of the plains, obscuring the view of everything, except the patterning rain which descended without ceasing day or night. Every sound was hushed, save that of the elements and the distant murmuring roar of countless waterfalls; not a bird chirped, the dank white lichens hung from the branches of the trees, and the wretchedness of the place was beyond description.

"I found it almost impossible to persuade the natives to work in such weather; and it being absolutely necessary that cottages should be built with the greatest expedition, I was obliged to offer an exorbitant rate of wages.

"In about a fortnight, however, the wind and rain showed flags of truce, in the shape of white clouds set in a blue sky. The gale ceased, and the sky

larks warbled high in air, giving life and encouragement to the whole scene. It was like a beautiful cool midsummer in England.

"I had about eighty men at work; and the constant click-clack of axes, the falling of trees, the noise of saws and hammers, and the perpetual chattering of coolies, gave a new character to the wild spot upon which I had fixed.

"The work proceeded rapidly; neat white cottages soon appeared in the forest; and I expected to have everything in readiness for the emigrants on their arrival. I rented a tolerably good house in Newera Ellia, and so far everything had progressed well.

"The 'Earl of Hardwick' arrived after a prosperous voyage, with passengers and stock all in sound health; the only casualty on board had been one of the hounds. In a few days all started from Colombo for Newera Ellia. The only trouble was, how to get the cow up? She was a beautiful beast, a thorough-bred 'short-horn,' and she weighed about thirteen cwt. She was so fat that a march of 115 miles in a tropical climate was impossible. Accordingly a van was arranged for her, which the maker assured me would carry an elephant. But no sooner had the cow entered it than the whole thing came down with a crash, and the cow made her exit through the bottom. She was therefore obliged to start on foot in company with the bull, sheep, horse, and hounds, orders being given that ten miles a day, divided between morning and evening, was to be the maximum march during the journey.

"The emigrants started per coach, while our party drove up in a new carriage which I had brought from England. I mention this, as its untimely end will be shortly seen.

"Four government elephant carts started with machinery, farming implements, &c., &c., while a troop of bullock bandies carried the lighter goods. I had a tame elephant waiting at the foot of the Newera Ellia Pass to assist in carrying up the baggage and maid-servants.

"There had been a vast amount of trouble in making all the necessary arrangements; but the start was completed, and at length we were all fairly off.

"In an enterprise of this kind many disappointments were necessarily to be expected, and I had prepared myself with the patience of Job for anything that might happen. It was well that I had done so, for it was soon put to the test.

"Having reached Ramboddé, at the foot of the Newera Ellia Pass, in safety, I found that the carriage was so heavy that the horses were totally unable to ascend the Pass. I therefore left it at the Rest-house while we rode up the fifteen miles to Newera Ellia, intending to send for the empty vehicle in a few days.

"The whole party of emigrants and ourselves reached Newera Ellia in safety. On the following day I sent down the groom with a pair of horses to bring up the carriage; at the same time I sent down the elephant to bring some luggage from Ramboddé.

"Now this groom, 'Henry Perkes,' was one of the emigrants, and he was not exactly the steadiest of the party;—I therefore cautioned him to be very careful in driving up the Pass, especially in crossing the narrow bridges and turning the corners. He started on his mission.

"The next day a dirty-looking letter was put in my hand by a native, which, being addressed to me, ran something in this style:—

"Honoré Zur
I'm sorry to inform you that the carriage and horses has met with a accident and is tumbled down a precipice and its a mussay as I didn't go too. The precipice isn't very deep bein not above heighty feet or therabouts—the horses is got up but is very bad—the carriage lies on its back and we can't stir it now. Mr. —— is very kind, and has lent above a hundred niggers, but they aint no more use than cats at liftin. Please Zur come and see whats to be done.

"Your Humble Serv.
"H. PERKES."

This was only the commencement of a chapter of accidents. Mr. Baker's pet short-horn cow died on the road, soon after landing at Colombo, his carriage horses got so injured they had to be shot, and his tame elephant dropped dead in a few days from being overdriven. Nothing daunted, however, a hundred and fifty natives were set to work to clear the forest and jungle, not felling but digging every tree out by the root, before the land could be brought to a state to receive the plough. Rather expensive work, says the author, amounting to about 30/- an acre; and the idea of turning the forests of Newera Ellia into cultivated land was early dispelled. No sooner were the oats a few inches high than they were eaten off by nocturnal herds of elk and hogs, the potatoes were almost totally devoured by grubs, an epidemic appeared among the cattle, and twenty-six fancy bullocks died within a few days; the rams got pugnacious, and one killed the other, fine Australian horses died the first year, "and everything seemed to be going into the next world as fast as possible." Strange to say Mr. Baker still persevered, and really did succeed in establishing the little colony at last:—

"A few years, necessarily, made a vast change in everything. All kinds of experiments had been made, and those which succeeded were persevered in. I discovered that excellent beer might be made at this elevation (6200 feet), and I accordingly established a small brewery.

"The solitary Leicester ram had propagated a numerous family, and a flock of fat ewes, with their lambs, throve to perfection. Many handsome young heifers looked very like the emigrant bull in the face, and claimed their parentage. The fields were green; the axe no longer sounded in the forests; a good house stood in the centre of cultivation; a road of two miles in length cut through the estate, and the whole place looked like an adopted 'home.' All the trials and disappointments of the beginning were passed away, and the real was a picture which I had ideally contemplated years before. The task was finished.

"In the interim, public improvements had not been neglected; an extremely pretty church had been erected, and a public reading-room established."

All praise be given to Mr. Baker for his undaunted perseverance under difficulties the most disastrous and disheartening. Again he revelled in the wild sports of the island with renewed vigour, and many a characteristic anecdote does the book contain of his escapes and adventures. Having given our readers a taste of his excellence on this theme in noticing his former work, we may give place to an intelligent account of some of the antiquities of the island:—

"Among these 'Topard,' anciently called 'Polanarua,' stands foremost. This city appears to have been laid out with a degree of taste which would have done credit to our modern towns.

"Before its principal gate stretched a beautiful lake of about fifteen miles' circumference (now only nine). The approach to this gate was by a broad road, upon the top of a stone causeway, of between two and three miles in length, which formed a massive dam to the waters of the lake which washed its base. To the right of this dam stretched many miles of cultivation; to the left, on the further shores of the lake, lay park-like grass-lands, studded with forest trees, some of whose mighty descendants still exist in the noble 'tamarind,' rising above all others. Let us return in imagination to Pollanarua as it once stood. Having arrived upon the causeway in the approach to the city, the scene must have been beautiful in the extreme: the silvery lake, like a broad mirror, in the midst of a tropical park; the flowering trees shadowing its

waters; the groves of tamarinds sheltering its many nooks and bays; the gorgeous blossoms of the pink lotus, resting on its glassy surface; and the carpet-like glades of verdant pasture, stretching far away upon the opposite shores, covered with countless elephants, tamed to complete obedience. Then on the right, below the massive granite steps which form the causeway, the water rushing from the sluice carries fertility among a thousand fields; and countless labourers and cattle till the ground: the sturdy buffalos straining at the plough, the women laden with golden sheaves of corn, and baskets of fruit, crowding along the palm-shaded road winding towards the city, from whose gate a countless throng are passing and returning. Behold the mighty city! rising like a snow-white cloud from the broad margin of the waters. The groves of cocoa nuts and palms of every kind, grouped in the inner gardens, throwing a cool shade upon the polished walls; the lofty palaces towering among the stately areca trees, and the gilded domes reflecting a blaze of light from the rays of a midday sun. Such let us suppose the exterior of Polanarua.

"The gates are entered, and a broad street, straight as an arrow, lies before us, shaded on either side by rows of palms. Here stand, on either hand, the dwellings of the principal inhabitants, bordering the wide space, which continues its straight and shady course for about four miles in length. In the centre, standing in a spacious circle, rises the great Dagoba, forming a grand *coup d'œil*, from the centre gate. Two hundred and sixty feet from the base, the Dagoba rears its lofty summit. Two circular terraces, each of some twenty feet in height, rising one upon the other, with a width of fifty feet, and a diameter at the base of about 250, form the step-like platform upon which the Dagoba stands. These are ascended by broad flights of steps, each terrace forming a circular promenade around the Dagoba; the whole having the appearance of white marble, being covered with polished stucco ornamented with figures in bas-relief. The Dagoba is a solid mass of brickwork in the shape of a dome, which rises from the upper terrace. The whole is covered with polished stucco, and surmounted by a gilded spire standing upon a square pedestal of stucco, highly ornamented with large figures, also in bas-relief; this pedestal is a cube of about thirty feet, supporting the tall gilded spire, which is surmounted by a golden umbrella.

"Around the base of the Dagoba on the upper terrace are eight small entrances with highly ornamented exteriors. These are the doors to eight similar chambers of about twelve feet square, in each of which is a small altar and carved golden idol.

"This Dagoba forms the main centre of the city, from which streets branch off in all directions, radiating from the circular space in which it stands.

"The main street from the entrance-gate continues to the further extremity of the city, being crossed at right angles in the centre by a similar street, thus forming two great main streets through the city terminating in four great gates or entrances to the town—north, south, east, and west.

"Continuing along the main street from the great Dagoba for about a mile, we face another Dagoba of similar appearance, but of smaller dimensions, also standing in a spacious circle. Near this rises the king's palace, a noble building of great height, edged at the corners by narrow octagon towers.

"At the further extremity of this main street, close to the opposite entrance-gate, is the rock temple, with the massive idols of Buddha flanking the entrance.

"This, from the form and position of the existing ruins, we may conceive to have been the appearance of Pollanarua in its days of prosperity. But what remains of its grandeur? it has vanished like 'a tale that is told,' it is passed away like a dream; the palaces are dust; the grassy sod has grown in mounds over the ruins of streets and fallen houses; nature has buried them in one common grave with their inhabitants. The lofty

palms have faded away, and given place to forest trees, whose roots spring from the crumbled ruins; the bear and the leopard crouch in the porches of the temples; the owl roosts in the casements of the palaces; the jackal roams among the ruins in vain; there is not a bone left for him to gnaw of the multitudes which have passed away. There is their handwriting upon the temple wall, upon the granite slab which has mocked at Time; but there is no man to decipher it. There are the gigantic idols before whom millions have bowed; there is the same vacant stare upon their features of rock which gazed upon the multitudes of yore; but they no longer stare upon the pomp of the glorious city, but upon ruin, and rank weeds, and utter desolation. How many suns have risen, and how many nights have darkened the earth since silence has reigned amidst the city? no man can tell. No mortal can say what fate befel those hosts of heathens, nor when they vanished from the earth. Day and night succeed each other, and the shade of the setting sun still falls upon the great Dagoba; but it is the 'valley of the shadow of death' upon which that shadow falls, like a pall over the corpse of a nation."

The work is most agreeably written, and illustrated with half-a-dozen of extremely beautiful lithotints.

The Literary Remains of the Rev. Thomas Price, Carnhuanawc, Vicar of Cwmdû, Breconshire; and Rural Dean. With a Memoir. By Jane Williams, Ysgafell. Longman and Co.

THE name and memory of Carnhuanawc will long be cherished in the Principality. To English readers it may be explained that this bardic title, by which Mr. Price is universally known among his countrymen, was first adopted by him as the signature to a series of papers on Cymric literature, and especially on Welsh bardic poetry, published in the 'Seren Gomer' (Star of Gomer), a Welsh monthly magazine, about thirty years since. It is compounded of *caer*, a heap of stones, *huan*, the sun, and *awg*, brightness, used as an adverbial termination; the bard of the sunny cairn, as the words in their combination may be roughly translated. These papers were his earliest contributions to the literature of the Principality, which he afterwards enriched with many and various works. Of his published books and his unpublished manuscripts the two volumes of 'Literary Remains,' by Miss Williams, of Ysgafell, present ample notices, with much valuable and curious information on the history and the literature of Wales. The second volume contains the biography of Mr. Price, from his birth in 1787 to his death in 1847. The Rev. George Howell, his friend and recent assistant in the ministry, who performed the last solemn offices for the Vicar of Cwmdû, has given the following warm and just sketch of his personal character:—

"Where can be found a man with that union of humility of disposition and superiority of intellect which distinguished him?—with those various and extensive acquirements and delicate tact, which fitted him for the society of the most learned and refined men in Europe; while his simple habits of life, his enthusiastic attachment to every flower and every tree of native growth in Wales, with his deep interest in the Cambrian peasantry, and in the language of his country, its music and poetry; together with his own literary labours, rendered him independent of all society, though ever fitted to enjoy it. He was, perhaps, the happiest, because the most contented, of human beings. He envied no one, coveted nothing, expected nothing, but drew on himself to assist all who asked him, as far as his money, his time, or his talent

could avail, to promote the best interests of Wales and Welshmen. With all this he was firm and unbending in integrity; nothing could bribe him to deviate from his duty to his countrymen. He neither bent the knee nor bowed the head, to advance his own interests. He was born to little, lived upon little, grasped at no more than he possessed; but, liberal as independent, applied every thing he could abstract from necessities, to supply the wants of those who had none other to help them."

At a great Eisteddfod, or bardic festival, held at Tre Madoc, in 1851, a prize for the best englyn, or epitaph, on Carnhuanawc, offered by Lady Hall, of Llanover, elicited compositions by no fewer than 126 competitors, specimens of which, given by Miss Williams, show the high estimation in which the lamented Thomas Price was held as a scholar and a clergyman, as a patriot and a man. While much of his biography will chiefly touch Cambrian sympathies, there are many points of deep interest to general readers. Among the celebrated persons whose names figure prominently in the narrative, are Lady Hester Stanhope and Campbell the poet. After describing the farm-house of Glan Irfon, near Builth, where Lady Hester lived when in Wales, Miss Williams gives the following account of that strange personage, as she appeared in 1809. She had gone down to Wales after hearing of the death of her brother, Captain Stanhope, who fell by the side of Sir John Moore, at the battle of Corunna:—

"Disappointed and mortified, aggrieved and saddened, by the failure of all her dependencies in friendship, ambition, and love, she came into Wales, at once to escape from the expensive and wearisome routine of fashionable life, to be diverted by a total change of occupations and associates, and to be soothed and solaced by the influences of majestic and lovely scenery, and of the fragrant and inspiring mountain air. Ostensibly she sought for health, but in reality for consolation and peace. Masons and other workmen were still busy at Glan Irfon when she arrived, and with the sanction of the landlord of the premises, Lady Hester undertook to superintend, direct, and expedite their tardy operations. Lady Hester brought with her into Wales a coach, which she kept at the Royal Oak in readiness for particular occasions, and had a lighter carriage, better adapted for country roads, with her at Glan Irfon, where she also kept two saddle-horses, and a cow. The latter was named Pretty-face, and Lady Hester amused herself with managing this favourite's dairy produce. She successfully skimmed the milk, churned the cream, and washed the butter with her own hands, but she never attempted to make cheese. She never drank Chinese tea, but in its stead quaffed twice a day an infusion of fresh balm leaves. Her porcelain services were fine, but every cup and saucer differed in pattern from all the rest of the set."

"Lady Hester sought in Wales to become the acknowledged and admired queen of her country, and she received their willing homage most graciously. She enjoyed there the gaiety of youthful spirits, the fresh originality of intelligent minds, and the inartificial graces of native refinement, sometimes in sociable excursions from her sequestered retreat, and sometimes bringing a few favourite companions within its precincts. She was very compassionate and bountiful to the poor; and besides medicine and money, gave away among them great quantities of dark striped flannel, and of the coarse grey cloth made by the neighbouring weavers. Her address and manners were most attractive and conciliating, but she was neither beautiful nor handsome in any degree. Her visage was long, very full and fat about the lower part, and quite pale, bearing altogether a strong resemblance to the portraits and busts of Mr. Pitt."

Several letters of Lady Hester Stanhope

to the Rev. Rice Price, father of Carnhuanawc, are given in the memoir. To young Price she was much attached, and as he was often at Glan Irfon, he gained some knowledge of life and character from his conversation with this eccentric and accomplished woman of the world. Mr. Price's intercourse with Tom Campbell was at a much later period, when the poet was writing his 'Life of Mrs. Siddons.' Campbell had heard that she was born at Brecknon, and wrote to Mr. Price to send him any particulars he could gather. The first letter is dated—

"St. Leonard's, by Hastings, 26th Aug. 1831.

"Sir,—Mrs. Henry Vaughan has authorized me to use her name as a passport for asking you to do me a particular favour:—

"I have undertaken to write the life of Mrs. Siddons; the great actress was born at Brecknon; and the kindness I ask of you is, that if you know anything particularly interesting about Brecknon, you will communicate it to me. * * *

"What will you help me to say of Brecknon? has it interesting historical recollections? was any person born or (bred) there of similar or secondary distinction? The family of the Kembles cannot inform me in what particular house or street of the town she was born—Is any distinct respecting her preserved in the place? What sort of theatre was there likely to have been in the place in the year 1755, when she was born? Something is whispered about her having been born in a house most vulgarly called the haunch of mutton. It would be pleasant to be able to indicate to the future traveller or sojourner at Brecknon the spot where so fair a being drew her first breath."

In replying apparently to a letter in which Mr. Price had asked if his correspondent was Campbell the poet, and sending information, another letter came from St. Leonard's, dated Sept. 3, 1831:—

"Sir,—Campbell the poet is the same person who is Mrs. Siddons's biographical undertaker, and he receives your compliment with all the self-complacency of Dr. Primrose.

"But compliments apart, I am most truly obliged to you. It was exceedingly kind of you to write me so promptly and so fully. * * *

"I have not for a long time met with so much frank and spirited disposition to assist me in my labours as your letter evinces. I feel as if I had known you twenty years, and therefore I hesitate not to let you know in confidence what a charity it is to help me in this undertaking. It is difficult to find very interesting anecdotes about Mrs. Siddons—I find by her correspondence that she was the very essence of maternal kindness, but her letters are all about matters that are either too delicate to be made public, or too domestic to be interesting. Stranger as I am, I tell you this confidentially, for it might injure the forthcoming book if it were known that I am distressed about its difficulties. But distressed I must own I am. Dear good Mrs. Siddons, she was a very angel, but devils make better stuff for biography than angels. The old toothless ladies—once dashing beauties—that were her sworn friends, heap upon me reams of proofs of her piety and purity; but Lord help me, I can make no use of all their twaddle. Your letter, however, has put me in better spirits, and with a sincere sense of your kindness, I remain your obliged and obedient servant,

THOMAS CAMPBELL."

More letters passed, very pleasant to read, and touching upon other topics besides that which first led to the correspondence. In one Campbell refers to a proposal made to him about a Celtic magazine. He writes now from Sussex Chambers, Duke-street, St. James's, Jan. 1833:—

"Now for the 'Celtic Magazine.' My dear Sir, my interest in the work as a Celt myself is considerable. I have also seen your kinsman, and my

disposition towards him would lead me, if it were at all practicable, to assist him in any speculation. But above all, a request from you, indebted as I am to you, would amount almost to a command, if I were differently situated. But I gave up the 'Metropolitan,' though it yielded me 300*l.* a year, with vow that on this side of time I should never embark in another periodical. Till May I shall be chained like a galley slave to the completion of Mrs. Siddons's Life, which, till a few months ago, the 'Metropolitan' and other vexations totally impeded. When I have finished my two volumes, I shall repair to the continent, and probably winter in Greece, but I mention this intention only to particular friends, and have reasons for not proclaiming it. It is therefore utterly beyond my power to enter into any such speculation as a magazine at home."

This correspondence is a satisfactory demolition of the groundless assertion of Mr. P. G. Patmore, in his recent book, 'My Friends and Acquaintances,' to wit, that the 'Life of Mrs. Siddons' was entirely prepared and composed by some unknown writer, to whom Campbell merely lent the *éclat* of his name, with the pleasant labour of 'overlooking the manuscript' and correcting the proof sheets! So much for the trustworthiness of Mr. Patmore.

These letters are but incidental though acceptable memorials in the 'Literary Remains' of Mr. Price, which are full of materials deeply interesting to the scholar, the antiquary, and the divine. We have often to lament the little attention given to Welsh affairs and to Celtic literature by Englishmen. The perusal of this memoir of Carnhuanawc we would strongly recommend to all who are disposed to know more of a most important though neglected field of learning. No one who reads this work can afterwards undervalue the zeal and industry with which our Cambrian neighbours cultivate the native literature of the Principality. The study of the bardic institutions and the Cymric literature has already thrown new and valuable light on our national history, and has furnished unexpected materials for the researches of scholars, antiquaries, and ethnologists. Nor are these studies confined in their bearings to the history of our own island alone. Archdeacon Williams, in his learned and ingenious 'Gomer,' and in his 'Life of Julius Caesar,' has shown how Cymric lore can illustrate the history of the world in ancient classic times. The 'Remains' of Mr. Price abound in similar striking and suggestive studies, and form a repertory of most valuable and curious information on all departments of Celtic history and literature. That the labours of the zealous promoters of Eisteddfoda and other national institutions, deserve encouragement not merely on literary grounds, but directly from the highest benefits produced by cultivating the native language of the Principality, will appear in the following extract from a speech delivered by Mr. Price, at the Brecon Eisteddfod, in 1826:—

"The establishment of these institutions has, in an eminent degree, conduced to the awakening among us of a spirit of national attachment; and nationality is very nearly allied to patriotism, if not the very germ and essence of that virtue; and the advantages of this principle have already shown themselves in the most decided manner, for in every town and district throughout the kingdom, in which any considerable number of Welshmen reside, this national attachment has operated for good; and in many places, in which a few years ago the Welsh residents were in many respects extremely destitute, and their condition unattended to, since the establishment of the Eisteddfodau, a

better spirit has gone forth among them, and is now in active operation. In many of the populous towns of England, in Birmingham for instance, and in Manchester, a concern has been manifested for subjects of the most serious importance; schools have been established for children of Welsh parents; Welsh congregations have been formed, and places of worship appointed; and in the city of Chester, a church has been appropriated to the ancient British language; and in Liverpool, still more distant from us, the erection of a Welsh church has been determined upon, and it is now actually in progress. If such important results do already show themselves so unequivocally, we may reasonably conclude, that the same effects are proceeding through thousands of minor and less conspicuous channels, to the incalculable benefit of the people. Perhaps, if no other services were effected by the Eisteddfodau, these alone would more than repay every friend to the welfare of his countrymen, for his exertions in their promotion.

"But it will be replied, All this may be very true, but wherefore encourage the continuance of the Welsh language? a confined provincial dialect? I answer, If the Welsh were an uncultivated language, the mere patois of an illiterate people, we must own it would be difficult to defend its continuance, or to justify our exertions for its preservation, for we might then be fairly accused of perpetuating a worse than useless dialect; but so far from being that worthless incumbrance, that unlettered jargon, I have no hesitation in asserting, that the Welsh language is at the present day to the Welsh peasant, a much more cultivated and literary medium of knowledge than the English is to the Englishman of the same class. I am not disparaging the language of England, every one must acknowledge its value: but to those to whom it is accessible in its improved and cultivated state, its numberless publications are infinitely beyond all estimate in point of literary value. But it must be acknowledged that from some cause or other, all these works are far removed from the reach and comprehension of the common people; at least I believe it will be admitted, that to see a periodical publication in the hands of an English peasant is not a thing of very frequent occurrence. But amongst our own countrymen in Wales, while there are numerous works continually issuing from the press, it is our own great boast and glory that they are the real peasanty and labouring classes that entirely support them. In confirmation of this, I shall only advert to a few of those works which have come under my own immediate notice.

"There is, for instance, in South Wales, the *Seren Gomer*, a monthly magazine in the Welsh language, entirely supported by those who own that as their colloquial speech; there is the 'Gwiliydd,' a similar work in North Wales; there is the 'Goleuad Cyrry,' on the Marches; there is again the 'Dysgedydd,' a similar magazine; there is also the 'Eurgrawn,' another; and there is the 'Oes,' printed at Swansea. Why should we multiply instances? We have even magazines for children, for infants at Sunday Schools! Who can say that the Welsh is a useless language, or that those who patronize it are not rendering a service to their country? Show me another language in the world, in which such a body of knowledge is found in the hands of the common people! Show me another race of men on the face of the earth, among whom the labouring classes are the entire patrons of the press. Our countrymen are in possession of the press, and never was a press so unobjectionably employed.

We need add no more to recommend this work, and greater attention to Welsh literature generally, to English scholars. In a separate chapter some notices of Welsh music are given, with references to books where further information on this subject will be found. The work is illustrated with numerous engravings, among which is a portrait of the subject of the memoir.

The Life and Works of Goethe: with Sketches of his Age and Contemporaries, from published and unpublished sources.
By G. H. Lewes. Two vols. D. Nutt.

(Second Notice.)

Having followed the biography of Goethe until his settlement at Weimar, in order not to return to his domestic history, we may as well complete the list of his female friends, so far as they are historical, until his marriage. The Baroness von Stein, Hofdame or maid of honour to the Duchess Amalia, was his first idol at Weimar, omitting some flirtations and intrigues less distinctly recorded. Hitherto Goethe had been captivated only by girls of tender years, but now "he is fascinated by a woman, a woman of rank and elegance, a woman of culture and experience, a woman who, instead of abandoning herself to the charm of his affection, knew how, without descending from her pedestal, to keep the flame alive." The husband of the Frau von Stein was indifferent to her, and the passion of the young poet was notorious at Weimar, in spite of precautions taken to avoid scandal. One little incident illustrates the usages of the time and of the town. In one of his letters Goethe directs the Frau von Stein to go out alone and meet him outside the gates, lest their being together should be noticed, every one passing the city barriers having to sign the sentinel's book. From the correspondence with the Frau, and from the biographer's comments, the reader must form his own idea of the relation between them. If, as Mr. Lewes says, she was throughout only coqueting with him, Goethe took cruel revenge at a later period. In the autumn of 1786 he set out on a visit to Italy, and amidst the excitement of the new scenes, and the formation of new passions, the Frau Von Stein was dethroned, and his letters to her gradually become less confidential:—

"Absence had cooled the ardour of his passion. In Rome, to the negative influence of absence, was added the positive influence of a new love. He had returned to Weimar, still grateful to her for the happiness she had given him, still feeling for her that affection which no conduct of hers could destroy, and which warmed his heart towards her to the last; but he returned also with little of that passion she had for ten years inspired; he returned with a full conviction that he had outlived it. Nor did her presence serve to rekindle the smouldering embers. Charlotte von Stein was now five-and-forty!"

The vehemence of her reproaches at his undisguised coldness on his return, prove the sincerity of her previous love, though the biographer says it was only the vexation of a coquette who saw her captive free from her chains. Other Italian reasons there were for her jealousy, though she does not seem to have known them. Goethe himself, in his 'Italiäischer Reise,' vaguely confessing fifty years after. But an event nearer home brought at last an open rupture. In the autumn of 1788 he was one day accosted by a young girl, who presented him with a petition, asking him to use his influence to procure some post for her brother, then getting his living at Jena by translating French and Italian stories. The robber stories of Vulpius had formerly some popularity, but his name is now known only as the brother of Christiane Vulpius, the wife of Goethe:—

"Her father was one of those wretched beings whose drunkenness slowly but surely brings a whole family to want. He would sometimes sell the coat

off his back for drink. When his children grew up they contrived to get away from him, and to support themselves: the son by literature, the daughters by making artificial flowers, woollen work, &c. It is usually said that Christiane was utterly uneducated, and the epigrammatic pen glibly records that 'Goethe married his servant.' She never was his servant. Nor was she uneducated. Her social position indeed was very humble, as the foregoing indications suggest; but that she was not uneducated is plainly seen in the facts, of which there can be no doubt, namely, that for her were written the 'Roman Elegies,' and the 'Metamorphoses of Plants.'

* * * * * Christiane had her charms; but she was not a highly gifted woman. She was not a Frau von Stein, capable of being the companion and the sharer of his highest aspirations. Quick motherwit, a lively spirit, a loving heart, and great aptitude for domestic duties, she undoubtedly possessed: she was gay, enjoying, fond of pleasure even to excess, and—as may be read in the poems which she inspired—was loss the mistress of his Mind than of his Affections."

The biographer makes the best he can of Christiane, and of her unmarried life in Goethe's house. Society in Weimar was shocked with this new *liaison*, although it had uttered no word against that with the Frau von Stein! The inferiority of her position seemed to be the chief scandal. The Frau von Stein's reproaches, however, were more intense, and Goethe had the insolence to hint that her feelings were partly owing to hypochondria and indigestion! In a letter replying to one from her, he says:—

"What I left behind in Italy I will not now repeat; you have already repulsed my confidence on that subject in a manner sufficiently unfriendly. When I first returned, you were, unhappily, in a peculiar mood, and I honestly confess the way in which you received me was excessively painful.

* * * * * "And all this before there was a hint of the liaison which now seems to offend you so much. And what is this liaison? Who is beggared by it? Who makes any claims on the feelings I give the poor creature?"

"Unhappily you have long despised my advice with reference to coffee, and have adopted a regimen eminently injurious to your health."

Is there anything worse than this in the history of Swift?

We turn from this unpleasant subject; and with regard to Christiane only here add, that fifteen years after she had borne him a son, he married her, probably for the sake of legitimizing his child. For Christiane he could then have little respect, as her dissipation led to perpetual domestic trouble. Again the memory of Frederika recurs, and we close this strange record of his domestic life with the notice of his last interview with her. In 1779 when at Strasburg on a journey with the duke, he rode over to Sessenheim, and wrote to the Frau von Stein a touching account of the visit, though the heartlessness of the writer is painfully apparent:—

"I found the family as I had left it eight years ago. I was welcomed in the most friendly manner. The second daughter loved me in those days better than I deserved, and more than others to whom I have given so much passion and faith. I was forced to leave her at a moment when it nearly cost her her life; she passed lightly over that episode to tell me what traces still remained of the old illness, and behaved with such exquisite delicacy and generosity from the moment that I stood before her unexpected on the threshold, that I felt quite relieved."

After quoting the letter which thus begins, well may the biographer add:—"Frederika here, as everywhere, shows a sweet and noble

nature, worthy of a happier fate. Her whole life was one of sweet self-sacrifice. Lenz had fallen in love with her; others offered to marry her, but she refused all offers. 'The heart that has once loved Goethe,' she exclaimed, 'can belong to no one else.'

We have purposely devoted much space to the records of Goethe's love affairs, not only as forming a large part of his personal history, but as indicating the origin and subjects of many of his chief writings. His works are generally the expressions of his own experience, with the exception of the few which were prompted simply by ambition. The origin of 'Werther,' and of other impassioned works, we have seen in the narrative. The 'Wilhelm Meister' owed some of its best passages to his acquaintance with the actress Corona Schröter, whose intimacy with another prevented Goethe from having closer relation to her. Of the inspiration of other of his works, the sources will be readily understood from the perusal of the sketch we have given of his various attachments and of his domestic life. But we must pass this to note a few of the more conspicuous incidents connected with his public life at Weimar. It was in 1775 that he took up his permanent abode at the court of Karl August. The opening chapter of the Fourth Book of the biography gives a graphic sketch of this little German capital in the eighteenth century, and of Goethe's life and influence there. The theatre, of which he was made director, occupies a large place in the annals of his Weimar life. His political duties were not of an onerous kind, nor did he fill with much credit the high offices to which he was appointed in the miniature state. The story of his treasurership is sufficient to refer to in illustration of this. His is certainly not a favourable instance for literary men to point to in their ambitious claims to be employed in offices of political and public trust. The charge of dishonesty, which has sometimes been baselessly brought against Goethe, is out of the question, but his carelessness about public accounts has furnished matter for amusing anecdotes and grave reflections:—

"In 1823 the *Landtag* (or Parliament, to use the nearest English equivalent) assembled, and demanded the Finance accounts. Goethe, who was at the head of the Commission for Art and Science, to which a sum of 11,757 thalers was allotted, at first took no notice of the demand made for his accounts, but was heard to express himself angrily at this *Landtag* with its pedantic fuss about a paltry sum. At length he was prevailed upon to send in his accounts. What was the surprise of the *Landtag* to read a few lines to this effect: 'Received, so much; Expended, so much; Remains, so much. Signed Grossherzogl. Immediatcommission für Wissenschaft und Kunst, Goethe!' At this cavalier procedure some of the members burst out laughing; others were indignant, and proposed to refuse the grant for the following year; a proposition which was all the more acceptable because the *Landtag* had a great idea of economy, and but a small idea of the value of Science and Art."

In an interview which Luden, one of the leading members of the *Landtag*, had with the Grand Duchess shortly after, she excused Goethe in terms such as these:— "The *Landtag* is unquestionably in the right; but the Geheimrath Goethe undoubtedly thinks he too is in the right. Above or beyond the written laws there is still another law—the law for poets and women. The *Landtag* is assuredly convinced that the whole of the money granted has been truly employed

by Goethe? You admit that? Well, then, the only question that now can arise is whether the money has been properly expended. * * * My only wish is that friendly relations be preserved, and that the old Geheimrath may be spared every annoyance. How this is to be done I do not see. But the *Landtag* need be under no uneasiness lest this should become a precedent. We have but one Goethe, and who knows how long we may preserve him; a second will not perhaps be soon found again."

The Emperor of Russia had forwarded to Döbereiner, the celebrated chemist, a bar of platinum. It was given to Goethe to forward to Döbereiner. The Geheimrath's passion for minerals was notorious, and having placed the platinum in his own cabinet, he could not be brought to part with it. Döbereiner, after repeated applications, at length complained to the Grand Duke. Karl August laughed and said, "Leave the old donkey in peace! You'll never get it from him. I will write to the emperor for another." Many other anecdotes of a similar kind are told, about which Mr. Lewes says, let no one accuse Goethe of thieving, who has ever borrowed money, books, or an umbrella, without restoring them! Of Goethe in his old age many pleasant anecdotes are told by the biographer, and this part of the work is enriched by a long letter from Mr. Thackeray, who spent some months at Weimar in 1831, and has recorded his reminiscences of the court and of the patriarch of letters who was its chief ornament. He died in the spring of the next year, 1832:—

"He remained in his private apartments, where only a very few privileged persons were admitted; but he liked to know all that was happening, and interested himself about all strangers. Whenever a countenance struck his fancy, there was an artist settled in Weimar who made a portrait of it. Goethe had quite a gallery of heads, in black and white, taken by this painter. His house was all over pictures, drawings, casts, statues, and medals. Of course I remember very well the perturbation of spirit with which, as a lad of nineteen, I received the long expected intimation that the Herr Geheimrath would see me on such a morning. This notable audience took place in a little antechamber of his private apartments, covered all round with antique casts and bas-reliefs. He was habited in a long grey or drab redingot, with a white neck-cloth and a red ribbon in his button-hole. He kept his hands behind his back, just as in Rauch's statuette. His complexion was very bright, clear, and rosy. His eyes extraordinarily dark, piercing, and brilliant. I felt quite afraid before them, and recollect comparing them to the eyes of the hero of a certain romance called 'Melmoth the Wanderer,' which used to alarm us boys thirty years ago; eyes of an individual who had made a bargain with a certain person, and at an extreme old age retained these eyes in all their awful splendour. I fancied Goethe must have been still more handsome as an old man than even in the days of his youth. His voice was very rich and sweet. He asked me questions about myself, which I answered as best I could. I recollect I was at first astonished, and then somewhat relieved, when I found he spoke French with not a good accent.

"*Vidi tantum.* I saw him but three times. Once walking in the garden of his house in the Frauenplan; once going to step into his chariot on a sun-shiny day, wearing a cap and a cloak with a red collar. He was caressing at the time a beautiful little golden-haired granddaughter, over whose sweet fair face the earth has long since closed too."

We cannot follow Mr. Lewes in his details of the literary pursuits and works of Goethe, on the chief of which able and genial criticisms are given. A separate chapter, entitled 'The

Poet as a Man of Science,' contains notices of his various researches on physical subjects, chiefly on light, and on the metamorphoses of plants, a department of philosophy which has since furnished remarkable results as to the laws of organic life in general, and of which Goethe, if not the discoverer, was one of the earliest investigators and most eloquent expositors. The opening paragraphs of Mr. Lewes' chapter on 'Egmont' express well the general estimate which impartial criticism will pass on the works of Goethe, the faults of which are as obvious as their excellences are undeniable:—

"There are men whose conduct we cannot approve, but whom we love more than many of those whose conduct is thoroughly admirable. When severe censors point out the sins of our favourites, reason may acquiesce, but the heart rebels. We make no protest, but in secret we keep our love unshaken. It is with poems as with men. The greatest favourites are not the least amenable to criticism; the favourites with criticism are not the darlings of the public. In saying this we do not stultify criticism, any more than morality is stultified in our love of agreeable rebels. In both cases admitted faults are cast into the background by some energetic excellence.

"'Egmont' is such a work. It is far, very far, from a masterpiece, but it is an universal favourite. As a tragedy, criticism makes sad work with it; but when all is said, the reader thinks of Egmont and Clärchen, and flings criticism to the dogs. These are the figures which remain in the memory: bright, genial, glorious creations, comparable to any to be found in the long galleries of art."

The pains taken by Mr. Lewes to prove that Goethe deserves the epithet of 'Great,' betrays his own doubts, while justifying those of others on the point. "Goethe," he says, "deserves the epithet of Great, unless we believe a great genius can belong to a small mind. Nor is it in virtue of genius alone that he deserves the name. Merck said of him that what he lived was more beautiful than what he wrote; and his life, amid all its weaknesses and errors, presents a picture of certain grandeur of soul, which cannot be contemplated unmoved." This is the substance of much elaborate pleading throughout the biography. About the greatness of genius and the greatness of intellect of Goethe there can be no question, but "grandeur of soul" was utterly wanting to him. His private life is a story of selfishness from beginning to end, and his servility at the court of Weimar, while it secured his outward comfort, was utterly inconsistent with the independence of spirit which literary men sometimes have carried to foolish excess. No such sensitiveness, however, troubled Goethe. Let any one who doubts as to his servility listen to the tone of a letter to the Grand Duke from Italy, whither he had graciously received permission to travel, without forfeiting his salary. He writes from Rome:—

"You have shown throughout your life that princely knowledge of what men are, and what they are useful for; and this knowledge has gone on increasing, as your letters clearly prove to me: to that knowledge I gladly submit myself. Ask my aid in that symphony which you mean to play, and I will at all times gladly and honestly give you my advice. Let me fulfil the whole measure of my existence at your side, then will my powers, like a new-opened and purified spring, easily be directed hither and thither. Already I see what this journey has done for me, how it has clarified and brightened my existence. As you have hitherto borne with me, so care for me in future; you do me more good than I can do myself, more than I can claim. I have seen a large and beautiful bit

of the world, and the result is, that I wish only to live with you and yours. Yes, I shall become more to you than I have been before, if you let me do what I only can do, and leave the rest to others. Your sentiments for me, as expressed in your letters, are so beautiful, so honourable to me, that they make me blush,—that I can only say; Lord, here am I, do with thy servant as seemeth good unto thee."

Goethe's conduct at the time of the German war of independence was also characteristic. He accompanied the troops of the Grand Duke to the seat of war, but took little interest in the cause for which they were fighting. "Fatherland" and "patriotism" were words of moonshine to him, and he had the candour himself to confess this. When Eckermann reproached him for not giving his country the benefit of his talents by writing something which might awaken the German people to freedom, he said in his reply:—

"That is not my business, but that of Theodore Körner. His war songs suit him perfectly. But to me, who am not of a warlike nature, and who have no warlike sense, war songs would have been a mask which would have fitted my face very badly. I have never affected anything in my poetry. I have never uttered anything which I have not experienced, and which has not urged me to production. I have only composed love songs when I have loved, and how could I write songs of hatred without hating?"

Mr. Lewes apologizes for this "political indifference" on the plea of "earnestness in art;" and to the charge brought against Goethe, that he looked on life only as an artist, a long and elaborate reply is made, concluding thus:—

"If when it is said 'he looked on life only as an artist,' the meaning is that he, as an artist, necessarily made art the principal occupation of his life, the phrase is a truism; and if the meaning is that he isolated himself from the labours and pursuits of his fellow men, to play with life, and arrange it as an agreeable drama, the phrase is a calumny. Let the reader of these pages pronounce. Has the life here laid before him shown Goethe deficient in benevolence, in lovingness, in sympathy with others and their pursuits? or shown any evidence of a nature so wrapped in self-indulgence, and so coldly calculating, that life could become a mere plaything to it? If the answer be No, then let us hear no more about Goethe's looking on life only as an artist."

After all that Mr. Lewes can say about Goethe's benevolence and lovingness, and sympathy with others and their pursuits, the fact of his life having been in the main one of selfish enjoyment rather than of generous action is undeniable. His mental activity was ceaseless, and his works reveal almost unexampled diligence and versatility; but this was the irresistible result of his natural constitution, not of high-principled sense of duty, or conscientious direction of his powers. His character was too typical of that which "Young Germany" in the present day admires and imitates. No man has had so much influence as Goethe on the national mind, and to him must be ascribed much of the selfish "political indifference" which at this moment prevails. While Europe is engaged in a great conflict of opinions on which the future destiny of civilization and liberty depends, "Young Germany" smokes its pipe, and drinks its beer, and worships Goethe. This same Weimar had once nobler historical associations. It was in its market-place that Luther fulminated against Teitzel and his Papal indulgences. It was at the Wartburg, a few miles off, that he translated the Bible into German. In the old church of Weimar the

picture of the reformer by Lucas Cranach is preserved, but Mr. Lewes tell us that "for this one portrait of Luther there are a hundred of Goethe." A significant fact truly; it is not of religion or freedom, but of art and poetry, they think at Weimar and throughout Germany; not Martin Luther, but Wolfgang Goethe.

NOTICES.

General Outline of the Organization of the Animal Kingdom, and Manual of Comparative Anatomy. Second Edition. By T. Rymer Jones, F.R.S. Van Voorst.

THIS laborious and valuable encyclopædia of animal physiology and anatomy, occupying upwards of 300 closely-printed pages, illustrated with 400 wood engravings, has reached a second edition, and the author has not failed to avail himself of the latest researches in the subject to bring his work up to the present advanced state of zoological science. Since the publication of the first edition, Professor Owen "has, by his invaluable analysis of the vertebrate skeleton, not only remodelled the nomenclature of the osteologist, but placed in the hands of the geological student a light wherewith to guide his steps amid the darkness of departed worlds. The improvements in our microscopes, and the zeal of our microscopists, have much advanced our knowledge of the infusorial organisms. The researches of Van Beneden and Siebold relative to the embryogeny of parasitic worms open before us a new field of research; while the observations of Steenstrup, Dalyell, and Agassiz, on the 'alternations of generation' among the *Hydriform Polypa* and *Acalephæ*, promise results of the utmost interest to the naturalist. The discoveries of Milne Edwards have importantly increased our information concerning the organization of the mollusca as well as of the thecalyconoid polyps, and those of Müller, revealing the metamorphoses of the echinoderms, add new lustre to a name already so distinguished in science." The wood engravings are bold and admirably cut, and we have been particularly struck by the very clear tone in which they are printed.

Flora of the Colosseum of Rome. By Richard Deakin, M.D. Groombridge and Sons.

THE idea of forming a catalogue of the plants growing within and among the ruins of the Colosseum is not a new one, having been entertained about forty years since by a Roman botanist named Antonio Sebastian. The number of species recorded by him are, however, little more than half of those observed by Dr. Deakin, and some of them have disappeared. Whether the species have really increased in number, or whether the eye of Sebastian was less acute than that of the author of the 'Florographia Britannica,' or whether he regarded as varieties what his successor enumerates as species, we leave it to botanists to determine. The inquiry is in any case a curious one, and may afford some pleasant speculation to those who are interested in sifting the causes of the migration of plants. Birds and currents of wind have probably a large share in the transportation of seeds and seedlings, and there are, doubtless, many other physical causes. Dr. Deakin enumerates no less a number than 420 species in the flora of the Colosseum, growing either among the ruins or in the central area, occupying about six acres. Of these 56 species are grasses, 47 composite, and 41 of the leguminous tribe. They represent 253 genera and 66 of the natural orders of plants, and each portion of the building appears to have its particular geographical range of species, according to the temperature and variety of soil. On the lower north side it is damp, and favourable to the production of plants which are not found on the upper walls, where it is drier, with an accumulation of mould, and where other kinds have found refuge; and on the south side it is hot and dry, with conditions suited only to the development of again different forms. To any botanist visiting Rome

the flora of the Colosseum is a subject of curious speculation and interest.

The Wonders of Science; or, Young Humphry Davy. The Life of a Wonderful Boy written for Boys. By Henry Mayhew. Bogue.

MR. MAYHEW has followed up his former excellent book of entertainment and instruction for young people, 'The Peasant Boy Philosopher,' with another volume, somewhat similar in its scope, but more definite in its contents, which present the leading facts of modern chemistry connected with the name of Sir Humphry Davy. While the early biography of the Cornish philosopher is taken as the basis of the narrative, and the most interesting facts of his life are embodied in the work, Mr. Mayhew does not attempt literally to follow the scientific workings of Davy's mind, or his career of discovery, the object being to present such points only as are most likely to inspire in the young a love of science and an intelligent zeal for its pursuits. The pleasant style in which the book is written, as well as the remarkable facts which it contains, are well adapted for this object. The volume contains many clever and appropriate illustrations.

The Eve of St. Agnes. By John Keats. Illustrated by Edward H. Wehnert. S. Low, Son, and Co.

TO the series of beautifully illustrated classical works of English literature, which already includes Goldsmith's 'Vicar of Wakefield' and the 'Deserted Village,' Gray's 'Elegy,' and Campbell's 'Pleasures of Hope,' is this year added 'The Eve of Saint Agnes,' by Keats. If the poem itself is not of the same high rank as those of Campbell, Goldsmith, or Gray, the artist has made the present volume worthy of taking its place with those in company with which it appears. The designs are good and the drawing excellent, and the book is a beautiful specimen both of illustrative and of typographical art.

SUMMARY.

IS the new edition of the works of Henry Hallam (Murray), in which the 'History of the Middle Ages,' and the 'Constitutional History of England' are completed, the first volume is now published of the 'Introduction to the Literature of Europe in the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Centuries.' In this fifth edition the additional notes of the previous editions are embodied, and the work in its present form will be more than ever a standard book of reference and of study.

The third volume of the new library edition of Byron's 'Poetical Works' (Murray), contains 'The Giaour,' 'The Bride of Abydos,' 'The Corsair,' 'Lara,' 'The Siege of Corinth,' 'Parisina,' 'The Prisoner of Chillon,' 'Beppo,' 'Mazeppa,' 'The Island.'

A most acceptable and useful present for little folks is a volume of 'Tales of Magic and Meaning,' written and illustrated by Alfred Crowquill (Grant and Griffiths). We have generally a suspicion of original fairy tales, but these are really good, and capably written, and some of them are worthy to be placed among the old favourites which have delighted former generations of readers.

Part I. of 'Historical and Biographical Sketches of the Hungarian Generals of the War in 1848-49,' by Richard Gelich, formerly attached to the staff of the ministry of war (Franz Thimann), contains a memoir of General Mészáros, the Magyar minister of war, under the President Count Louis Bathyan, in the short but glorious period between the first declaration of Independence, and the troubles that resulted from the intrigues of the Republican party. M. Gelich has had access to the best sources of information, and his book is written with fairness and moderation. The Western Powers may well now regret the passive indifference which allowed Hungary in 1849 to be crushed under the weight of Russian bayonets. These biographical sketches of the Hungarian generals of the War of Independence will be completed in six parts. The work deserves the encouragement of those who feel

strongly on the subject of Austrian and Russian despotism.

To the new Oxford edition of the Greek and Roman classics, with notes in English, for the use of schools (J. H. and J. Parker), are added *The Epistles and Ars Poetica of Horace*, and *The Aestesis of Euripides*. They are very neat as well as carefully edited books.

A series of *Introductory Lessons on Morals*, by the author of 'Lessons on the British Constitution' (John W. Parker and Son), has in part appeared in the periodical called the 'Leisure Hour.' It is a work well adapted for conveying plain and sound instruction on ethical subjects, which have too usually been handled in a style too scholastic or metaphysical for being of use in popular training.

A little treatise on *The Theory and Practice of Notes of Lessons*, by John Jones (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.), a teacher of experience, contains matter that will be found most useful and suggestive to masters, pupil teachers, and students. Two lectures on education, by S. A. Peers, Head Master of Repton School, treat of *Mind and Body*, and *Moral Influence* (Hatchard), and are also deserving the notice of teachers and parents.

In the 'Parlour Library' No. 132 (Hodgson), is published a translation of *The Queen's Necklace*, by Alexander Dumas, the story of a well-known event of the last days of the old Bourbons. Count Cagliostro, M. de Calonne, and all the personages who figured in that mysterious transaction, are represented with great dramatic effect in M. Dumas' historical romance.

A pleasantly written tale, by the author of 'Matthew Paxton,' *Christian Melville* (Bogue), we can heartily recommend for the good and useful lessons it conveys, for those who can be satisfied without wonderful or striking incidents in a story. A story of Australian life, *The Emigrant's Home; or, How to Settle* (Groombridge and Sons), by William H. G. Kingston, author of several good books on emigration, contains many useful and practical hints for Australian settlers, with information about the country and its mode of life, which will be acceptable to those who have friends in the colony. In Routledge's Railway Library, Mrs. Gray's novel, *The Duke* (Routledge and Co.), is the last volume issued.

A *Statistical View of the Population, Religions, and Languages of Europe, Transcaucasia, and Turkey in Asia*, by E. Ravenstein (E. Stanford), presents much useful and accurate information in the form of coloured maps and well-arranged tabular statements.

A pictorial and poetical book of charades, entitled *Philosophy and Mirth united by Pen and Pencil*, (Houlston and Stoneman), is an ingenious and original attempt to produce an illustrated collection of enigmas, charades, and other puzzles. It will be found an acceptable contribution to the entertainment of winter evenings.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Bateman's (Rev. C. H.) Lamp of Love, 18mo, cloth, 1s. 6d. Birk's (Rev. T. E.) Difficulties of Belief, crown 8vo, 4s. 6d. British Rural Sports, 8vo, half bound, 10s. 6d. Caldecott's (J.) Practical Guide to Account Keeping, 5s. Constable's Miscellany, Vol. 10, 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d. Crombie's Etymology and Syntax of English Language, 7s. 6d. Drury's (A. H.) Blue Ribbons, square, cloth, 3s. 6d. Excelsior Library, No. 3, post 8vo, sewed, 1s. 6d., cl., 2s. 6d. Geddie's (W. D.) Greek Grammar, crown 8vo, cloth, 4s. Gilbert's (J. W.) Practical Treatise on Banking, 6th ed., 16s. Goldsmith's (O.) Traveller, crown 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d. Guthrie's (Rev. T.) Gospel in Ezekiel, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d. Herbert's (G.) Poetical Works, illustrated, 4to, cloth, 18s. Hare's (Archdeacon) Miscellaneous Pamphlets, 8vo, cl., 12s. Hunt's (L.) Court Suburb, 2 vols., post 8vo, cloth, 21s. Inet's (J.) Origines Anglicane, new edition, 2 vols., 21s. 10s. James's (G. P. R.) Old Dominion, 3 vols., p. 8vo, £1 1s. 6d. Jarman's Young Protestant, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d. Kahn's (C. F. A.) German Protestantism, 12mo, cl., 4s. 6d. Kesteven's Manual of the Practice of Domestic Medicine, 7s. 6d. Law's (Archdeacon) Christ is All, 12mo, cloth, 3s. Little Tales for the Nursery, 12mo, coloured, 2s. 6d. Longfellow's Hiawatha, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d. Loudon's My Own Garden, square, cloth, coloured, 3s. 6d. Lowth's (G. T.) Wanderer in Arabia, 2 vols., post 8vo, £1 1s. Nunn's Sermons, 8vo, cloth, 6s. Orr's Precious Mines, 32mo, cloth, 2s. 6d. Orr's Circle of the Sciences, post 8vo, cloth, Vol. 5, 5s. 6d. Owen's (Mrs.) Spirit of the Holly, square, cloth, 3s. 6d.

Pardoe's (Miss) Lady Arabella, square, cloth, 2s. 6d. Parminster's Materials for an English Grammar, 3s. 6d. Pfeiffer's (Ida) Lady's Second Journey, 2 vols., p. 8vo, £1 1s. Philosophy and Mirth, crown 8vo, cloth, 1s. 6d. Ruff's Guide to the Turf, Winter edition, 1856, 12mo, 2s. 6d. Spalding's (J. W.) Japan, post 8vo, cloth, 8s. 6d. Stier's (R.) Words of Jesus, 8vo, cloth, Vol. 2, 10s. 6d. Stories of Birds, &c., 12mo, cloth, coloured, 2s. 6d. Taylor's (R.) Ika Mau; or, New Zealand, 8vo, cloth, 10s. Treasury of History and Biography, 12mo, cloth, 3s. Twilight Tales, 12mo, cloth, coloured, 2s. 6d. Whately (Dr.) Selections from the Works of, 8vo, cl., 5s. Woods's (N. A.) Past Campaign, 2 vols., p. 8vo, cloth, £1 1s.

MARQUEE MUSEUMS.

(To the Editor of the *Literary Gazette*.)

Hitcham Rectory, Suffolk, Dec. 3.

IT must be nearly two years since you noticed in the 'Literary Gazette' a plan for a marqué museum, filled, for a single day, with objects of nature and art, which I had introduced at our village horticultural shows; and at the same time you gave a hint that something of the sort might be made available at the camp at Chobham. We have lately heard a good deal about the ignorance of our West Suffolk Militia, and have been told, I believe most justly, that a large majority of our recruits in this service can neither read nor write. In this village the generation of adult labourers have either never been taught, or else a few of them have been so imperfectly instructed that their powers in this respect may be reckoned at zero. With the rising generation, several of the girls have the prospect of a fair education before them, but it is next to impossible to persuade either parents or employers of agricultural labour to allow the boys to attend school long enough to learn even how to read and write sufficiently well to make after use of what they have been taught. It would require the tact of a Champollion to decipher the wonderful hieroglyphic intended for a signature by some of them. (Quere, whether a like charge might not be made against some in high stations?) I have looked through our Marriage Register for the names of labourers, sons of labourers, and for those of the daughters of labourers, married since 1837, when the new forms of entry were established, and I glean the following result:—Labourers, sons of labourers, signing their names, five; with a cross, ninety-seven. Daughters of labourers signing their names, ten; with a cross, ninety-four. This shows a little more than ninety-two per cent. in favour of cross marriages! Since it is the girls who now chiefly avail themselves of the opportunities afforded for education, I often tell the lads they will belong to a hempecked generation if they do not turn over a new leaf. The fault does not lie with the children. It rests largely with the employers, then with the parents, but primarily with those who will not sufficiently impress upon the Government the propriety of devising and executing an efficient method for ensuring the education of these neglected children. But foregoing this wide topic, let me say a few words upon marqué museums, and the possibility of so far improving on them as to make them valuable means of conveying instruction at

Aldershot (if they be there) to the West Suffolk Militiamen, whose lamentable ignorance has been so correctly noticed in Mr. Mitchell's School Report. Many of these men are sufficiently quick-witted to feel interested about objects of nature and art, and would be found willing to receive instruction by eye and ear concerning them. They might thus be taught to avail themselves of very much knowledge which would improve them as rational beings, and fortify them against temptation, or prepare them for difficulties over which no amount of mere brute courage could enable them to triumph. I use no figure of speech when I declare that I have more than once had the remark made to me by persons of the class alluded to, "Ah, sir, if we had these things to look at or think about, our heads would not be so full of drink as they are." I speak positively to the fact that such persons soon experience a growing interest in the examination of the sort of objects I have alluded to, and in the information they may have received concerning them. I have no doubt whatever that a judicious selection of illustrations from a few 'hut-

museums' at Aldershot, with occasional lectures (short explanations), delivered, *not too frequently*, by competent persons, together with opportunities allowed for inspecting the contents of these museums at stated intervals, there would soon be diffused a *heap* of information (as we say in Suffolk), and that a *heap* of interest would be taken in this or that particular pursuit, and ultimately a *heap* of drunkenness forgone. There must be a *heap* of willing hands about a camp with leisure sufficient to carry out a scheme of this sort, if some one will but make a beginning. No heterogeneous assemblage of pretty looking objects should be allowed; but they should be mainly illustrative specimens, capable of both provoking curiosity and of tending to gratify it. If officers and subalterns should not think it derogatory to their military dignity to assist, they might soon obtain sufficient information to be able to retail it to such of the men as they observed interested about particular objects. If, in addition, the unlettered recruit were invited (not to say obliged) to learn to write and read, West Suffolk might before long wipe off the stain which has been cast upon her. Yours, &c.

J. S. HENSLow.

* * * However lightly the idea of introducing marqué museums in the militia camp may be viewed by those who have not witnessed the beneficial effects of this proprietary form of teaching, our readers may be assured that these suggestions from the Cambridge Professor of Botany are entitled to high consideration. The unlettered mind is liable to be impressed in a degree little understood, with the curious varieties and histories of objects of art and nature. How often have we wished, when seeing the multitude thronging with eager curiosity the galleries of the British Museum, that the sticks-in-waiting were permitted to give some more homely account of their contents than is to be found in the official catalogues.

ROBERT MONTGOMERY.

THE death of the Rev. Robert Montgomery, author of 'Satan,' 'The Omnipresence of the Deity,' and other poems, is announced as having taken place at Brighton after a few days' illness, at the age of forty-seven. Few writers in our time have been more voluminous in their productions, and few have attained a wider popularity. Of his earliest poem, 'The Omnipresence of the Deity,' at least twenty-six editions have been published, and the fact of its having maintained its ground for twenty-two years is presumptive proof of its possessing some qualities deserving public estimation. Of his other poems the most conspicuous are 'Satan,' 'Luther,' 'Messiah,' 'Oxford,' 'Woman,' and a collection of pieces on sacred subjects, entitled 'The Christian Life.' An edition of his works in six volumes was published in 1840, but almost every subsequent year has witnessed the appearance of one or more additional volumes in prose or verse. Of his prose works the best are some discourses on 'The Gospel in advance of the Age,' and on 'The Great Salvation.' The multitude of Mr. Montgomery's works may be conjectured when we mention that their title pages bear the names of at least thirteen different publishing firms. Most of them have passed through several editions. His latest publication, we believe, was a selection of sacred poetry entitled 'Lyra Christiana.' In reviewing that volume we expressed our surprise at the almost unprecedented sale of the poems of a writer who did not seem to possess the recognised elements of a high literary reputation. In a terribly severe article by Mr. Macaulay, in the *Edinburgh Review*, since reprinted in his collected Essays, the system of 'literary puffing,' by advertisements and otherwise, was regarded as the main element in their unaccountable success. The name of the author being frequently confounded with that of Montgomery, the Sheffield bard, may also have helped to gain incidental reputation. In the volumes just published of the *Memoirs of James Montgomery*, the biographers mention the annoyance he and his friends

felt at the almost fraudulent advertisements of some of Robert Montgomery's London publishers, in announcing "a new poem by Montgomery," leaving the readers to suppose it was the production of the poet whose reputation was already classical from his 'World before the Flood,' and 'The Wanderer in Switzerland.' The popularity of Robert Montgomery as a preacher appeared to us also to account for the sale of many copies of his works. But the author once pointed out to us, in a private letter of expostulation, that almost all his poems were written previous to his ordination. The real cause, we believe, of the popularity of his poetry lies in the importance and interest of the subjects, and in their religious tone and spirit, by which the sympathies of large classes of readers are affected. Some truly poetical merits his writings undoubtedly possess, and his popularity might have been as solid and enduring as it has been rapid and extensive, had greater time and labour been bestowed on the elaboration of his works. As they now stand, they have too much the appearance of hasty extemporeaneous effusions by a writer possessing unusual facility of composition in verse. There are, however, many beautiful passages, and the volume of selections, made by the author himself, deserves a place in the libraries of literary men. With the general public we have no doubt that 'Luther,' 'The Omnipresence of the Deity,' and other of his poems, will continue to be favourites. They express feelings and opinions in which Christians and Protestants will always sympathize; and we cannot but rejoice in the wide circulation of books so completely on the side of truth, freedom, and religion. In 'Luther' there are some fine passages, and it is the only attempt at all worthy of attention yet made to write an epic on the subject of the great Reformation.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE Lord Advocate, it is said, has expressed his readiness to bring in a bill for reforming the Scottish Universities, provided those who are agitating the question can agree upon some feasible and practical proposal before the meeting of Parliament. We do not see what good can be obtained, while there may be much risk, in thus inviting the interference of Parliament. No new legislation is required for the Scottish Universities, but only the assistance of the Government or the Privy Council in developing and improving the existing system. One great object of the reformers is the institution of fellowships, so as to secure learned leisure for graduates after finishing their academical curriculum. It is not from the State but from private liberality that the principal funds for such objects must be expected. There is at the present moment a subscription going on at Oxford for instituting a scholarship "in testimony of the affectionate respect entertained for the late Dr. Macbride, Principal of Magdalen Hall," to be called "the Macbride Scholarship." The committee includes almost all the leading resident Dons, with Lord Shaftesbury, the Bishops of Salisbury and St. Asaph, and other influential or official men friends of the late Principal. Similar steps ought to be taken by our friends in the Scottish universities. For instance, it is very desirable that there should be one or two travelling fellowships connected with the department of natural history, held for two years or more, by which scientific zeal would be cherished, and the museum enriched with specimens. Instead of crying to the Jupiter of Government, might not our Scottish friends do what is being done at Oxford, and institute a fellowship in testimony of the affectionate respect in which the memory of the late Edward Forbes is held? Here is another practical and feasible reform for which no application to Parliament is necessary. The late Dr. Thomson of Palermo, left a sum of money in 1821, to the magistrates of Edinburgh, as patrons of the university, for endowing a lectureship of mineralogy. The conditions on which he made the offer of funds, and of his collection of minerals, were accepted, but to this hour these conditions have been evaded, and the funds misapplied. Dr.

Fleming, in the inaugural address at the opening of the winter session of the Royal Physical Society, on the 28th ult., spoke of this as "the abuse of a bequest for a scientific purpose, unparalleled perhaps in the history of corporation jobs." Now the courts of law, if necessary, may compel the town council to apply this fund, with its accumulated interest and arrears, to the object designed by the founder. We think that the opportunity should not be lost, if not for dividing the chair of Natural History, at least of instituting a separate lectureship for Mineralogy and Geology. This would be an instance of a reasonable and advisable addition to the academical staff, the whole range of Natural History being too great for a single chair. But we would protest against the wild schemes of those reformers who advocate the establishment of chairs for many branches of the science, inasmuch as the main work of a professor is not so much to communicate details as to teach and illustrate principles, to be followed out in private study and research.

Cardinal Wiseman has lately been delivering various public orations, some of which it is within our province to notice, from their bearings on our history and literature. In a lecture, on Monday evening, to the young men of the St. James's Catholic Association, in reply to that of Lord John Russell at Exeter Hall, the Cardinal protested against the charges of intolerance and persecution in former times being confined to Catholics, the spirit of the times, and not the principles of the church, being to blame. This is so far true, but it was not added that the Church of Rome still persecutes wherever it has the power, and that its encouragement and recognition of modern science, astronomy for instance, can only be at the expense of its claims to be an infallible and unchangeable authority. When the Cardinal proceeded to denounce Locke and Milton in an assemblage of young Englishmen without interruption, it was seen how the spirit of the ultra-montane party in the church of Rome is subversive of generous independence of thought as well as of patriotic feelings. The addresses of Cardinal Wiseman on the subject of the Concordat with Austria, can in like manner be listened to with patience only by those in whom loyalty and love of country are extinguished. Even if all that is recorded in our history of the dangerous and degrading influence of concordats were forgotten, the pages of Shakespeare and Milton would suffice to keep alive in England the wholesome fear of Papal jurisdiction in any independent country. To re-introduce the canon law would now be as idle an imagination as the restoration of the Hierarchy. Cardinal Wiseman's praises of concordats, and his pleadings for the power of the Pope in the dominions of other sovereigns, are out of date in England. With truthful and happy irony this has been expressed in an article in "The Times":—

"The Cardinal is like a masquerader caught on his return home by the telltale sun. The pastoral crook, the flowing robes, the false beard, the highly-ringed cheek, did all very well by gas-light, when the assistants had agreed to a compromise between the present and the past; but at five o'clock in the morning, beneath the piazza of Covent-garden, when the ruddy market-gardeners of A.D. 1855 are tossing about happy realities in the shape of sound-hearted cabbages; when the wallflowers smell sweet in the baskets of the flower-girls; when the street-singers respond with the cries of the early lunders of milk which is meant to be drunk, and of actual sweeps who purpose sweeping actual chimneys which are foul with bad *fide* soot—the false Cardinal, the mummer, the masquerader, slinks along like a vulgar ghost. What have real men, in whose veins life is bubbling and dancing, to do with shadows, such as these? But what if this mummer should call upon us to desist from our usual and wholesome occupations, while he convinced us that the world ought to go back four centuries, that the present was the past, and that our only course was to bow our necks to chains which our wiser ancestors rent asunder and cast behind them, in their own names and in the name of their posterity, for ever? Such was Cardinal Wiseman's position when, on the night of Sunday last, from the pulpit of the Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary, Moorfields, he addressed his audience in favour of the Austrian Concordat."

Colonel Rawlinson, in his lecture in the Sheldonian theatre at Oxford, on Wednesday, went over much the same ground as in his lucid and masterly discourse during the meeting of the British Association at Glasgow. To an audience of about fifteen hundred persons, including all the notables

of the University, he gave a narrative of the history of the discovery of the Assyrian and Babylonian remains, and of the progress of the decipherment of the cuneiform writing. The lecture was illustrated by drawings, maps, and models. Not the least interesting part of the lecture was that in which Colonel Rawlinson described his own discoveries in the autumn of last year in the Birs-i-Nimroud. At the close of the lecture the Vice-Chancellor gave thanks to the learned D.C.L. in the name of the audience.

The following arrangements have been made at the Royal Institution for the lectures before Easter:—Six lectures on the Distinctive Properties of the Common Metals (adapted to a juvenile auditory), by Dr. Faraday. Twelve lectures on Physiology and Comparative Anatomy, by Professor Huxley. Eight lectures on Light, by Professor Tyndall. Eight lectures on Organic Chemistry, by Professor Odling.

The unpleasant and unseemly disputes relative to the Campbell monument, in Westminster Abbey, have at last been brought to a close, as appears by the following order for payment of the balance of the fund to the sculptor, Mr. Calder Marshall, R.A.

"London, Nov. 23, 1855.

"The Campbell Monument.

"The Dean and Chapter of Westminster having given up their claim; and no further claims having been made against the Campbell Monument Fund; and all expenses of the Pedestal having been paid for the artist by an act of private liberality, the balance which we as Executors of the poet and as two of the members of the Committee deemed it prudent to reserve for the protection of the Committee, under existing circumstances, may now be paid over to the sculptor, Mr. W. C. Marshall, R.A.—WM. BEATTIE, M.D., WM. MOXON,

"To Messrs. Coutts & Co., Strand."

Having refrained from offering any remarks on this subject hitherto, we now only express our satistfaction at the result. The public subscription having proved so large as was anticipated, both the sculptor and the secretaries of the fund have been placed in a false position, greater allowance for which ought to have been made before bringing a personal dispute about money matters before the public. Mr. Moxon, on behalf of the committee, would only have been too happy to have satisfied the sculptor's claims in the fullest manner, had there been funds; and Mr. Calder Marshall acted with liberality and honour in completing his engagement in face of the discouragements he met with.

The Earl Stanhope has founded a prize at Oxford for an annual essay on some subject of modern history, English or foreign, the date not being earlier than 1300, or later than 1789. The competition will be open to all undergraduates, who, in the term of its award, shall not have exceeded the sixteenth term from their matriculation. The Regius Professor of Modern History and the two Senior Examiners in the School of Law and Modern History to be the adjudicators. For the endowment of the fund the sum of 20*l.* is promised annually during the donor's life-time, and provision will be made in his will for its continuance. The Earl, when Lord Mahon, was for a time examiner in the School of Law and History, and, in the institution of this prize, honourably associates his name as a historian with the university of which he is a graduate.

There is something grievously wrong going on in the management of Christ's Hospital. At the last meeting of the Governors, the reporters of the press were excluded, which is always a bad sign. It appears that, at that meeting, on account of the untoward state of the finances, it was resolved that presentation to the school should for the present be suspended, except by the Duke of Cambridge, the Lord Mayor, and those life governors the amount of whose donations have guaranteed their rights of nomination.

In the addresses and speeches in connexion with the visit of the King of Sardinia, many historical as well as political subjects have been happily introduced. It is a gratifying fact that the most complete development of the principles of civil and religious freedom is now witnessed in a country long notorious in history for its subserviency to

Papal power, and its cruel persecution for religion. Exactly two centuries ago, in 1655, those terrible massacres took place in Piedmont, which called forth the active interference of the English Protector, and which are described in Milton's immortal sonnet. This accounts for the prominence occupied by deputations from religious bodies among those who presented addresses to the royal representative and heir of the ancient house of Savoy.

In a lecture delivered last week at the Glasgow New Polytechnic Institution, Lieut.-Colonel Parly urged the duty of forming military libraries in all garrison towns and places where troops are usually stationed, the improvement of the men in the public service being a solemn obligation on the nation and on individuals. He recommended his hearers to form a Glasgow military library fund. The object is one that deserves all encouragement. Lord Panmure has at former times done much for the intellectual and moral improvement of the soldier, and his authority as war minister may now be used to good purpose. Among our troops at home, and the militia regiments most of all, there is ample scope for useful and beneficent schemes of this class. The appeals lately made by the Rev. Chaplain Wright, by Mr. Albert Smith, and others, for the Crimean libraries, have, we believe, been liberally responded to.

The annual meeting of the supporters of the Norfolk and Norwich Museum was held on Saturday in last week, Mr. J. H. Gurney, M.P., in the chair. From the report, it appears that valuable additions continue to be made to the collection of raptorial birds which has been for some time in course of formation under the auspices of Mr. Gurney, and which now includes 1000 birds, some of them such rare specimens, that Prince Charles Bonaparte, while recently at Glasgow, expressed a desire to visit the Museum for the purpose of making notes of them. The meeting, after cordially thanking Mr. Gurney for his munificence and attention to the institution, unanimously re-elected him its president. During the past year, 19,058 persons visited the Museum.

We have pleasure in calling attention to an appeal, made in our advertising columns, for subscriptions towards the support of the widow of Mr. Strange, an eminent collector of natural history, who was lately murdered by some natives in Australia. We have reason to know that Mrs. Strange is deserving of the deepest sympathy, having a short time since most honourably forwarded to this country some valuable specimens in discharge of a small debt of her husband's, when suffering greatly herself at the time from the bereavement.

The extraordinary meteor of last Monday night, noticed in the London papers of the following morning, has been observed in different parts of the country, one correspondent at Harrowgate describing it as surpassing in brilliancy and grandeur any that he had witnessed in tropical climates. It appeared as a ball of fire, passing rapidly in a W.N.W. direction, leaving a train of bright sparks, and bursting into jets of flame after traversing nearly a third part of the heavens. No remarkable change of weather was coincident with this atmospheric phenomenon.

Francis Rude, the French sculptor, died lately at the age of seventy-one. His statue of the Neapolitan fisherman first made him famous, having for it received the cross of the Legion of Honour from Louis Philippe. He was the principal artist employed by M. Thiers in decorating the Arc de Triomphe de l'Etoile. The grand jury of the Paris Exhibition had shortly before his death awarded to him a grand *medaille d'honneur*.

Mrs. Gaskell has undertaken to write a memoir of the lamented Charlotte Brontë, author of 'Jane Eyre,' at the request of her father and her husband. A drama, founded on the novel 'Jane Eyre,' has lately been brought out with great success at the Théâtre de Vandeville, Brussels, in which city the scenes of the story are laid.

We lately recorded the death of Vörösmarty, the Hungarian poet, and this week it is announced from Constantinople that a Polish poet of high

mark, Mitskievitch, has died. He was formerly a Professor of Slavonic language and literature in the College de France, and librarian at the Imperial Arsenal. He had been sent to the East charged with a scientific mission.

Mr. James Hardiman, a well-known Celtic scholar, formerly Commissioner of Records in Dublin Castle, and afterwards Librarian to the Queen's Colleges, died lately at the age of seventy-three. His 'History of Galway,' and 'Bardic Remains of Ireland,' have given him a distinguished name among the authors of Ireland.

The sales of the libraries of the Rev. Dr. Townshend and the Rev. Dr. Gilly are fixed for the 11th and 17th inst., at Messrs. Southgate and Barrett's rooms. They are most valuable collections, chiefly of historical and ecclesiastical works.

The newspapers record the death, at Lincoln, of Robert Bunyan, the last male descendant in a direct line from John Bunyan, the author of 'The Pilgrim's Progress.'

M. Leverrier and Sir R. Murchison have been elected foreign members of the Royal Academy of Science at Stockholm.

Mr. Albert Smith—or Albertus Maximus, as a leading journal, under the potent influence of a champagne supper, called him—has again reproduced his *Ascent of Mont Blanc*; but the snowy garment is worn somewhat threadbare, and almost brought to tatters with the dusky patches that have been sewn into it. The entertainment, in its present form, is quite unworthy of the valiant mountaineer. Mr. Smith has introduced into it an infinite deal of nonsense, compounded of impossible jokes, striking only from their volubility of utterance. The only clever novelties are two sketches—one of a Parisian charlatan well known to the frequenters of the Place Vendôme, the other of a quaint Britisher from the Crimea—which are most truthful in humour of the richest kind, and perfectly inimitable, and make us truly regret that our witty delineator of character has not a more intelligent appreciation of his art than to damage his reputation with so much alloy. Mr. Smith may argue with us, that the people throng in crowds to see him, and laugh and are amused; and that, while his good-humoured nonsense and his pretty châtel bring money to the treasury, why should he aim at establishing himself in a position beyond the standard of his audience? This cannot last beyond the present season. We trust Mr. Albert Smith will study to produce something more worthy of his name than that which is now spurious set forth as an '*Ascent of Mont Blanc*'.

M. Jullien gave a Mozart night on Wednesday, the selection including the *Zauberflöte* overture; the Pianoforte Concerto in E flat, admirably performed by M. Bille; the Symphony in E flat; and the whole of the Jupiter Symphony. A selection from *Don Giovanni* was substituted for the performances of Madame Gassier, who was unable to sing. The grand and beautiful music of Mozart was splendidly given, and received with warmest enthusiasm by the densely crowded audience. On Tuesday evening there was a repetition of the Mendelssohn festival of last week, with the same programme, including the *Ruy Blas* Overture, the Pianoforte Rondo in E flat, brilliantly played by M. Bille, and the Italian Symphony, the whole of which was admirably given. M. Sainton's performance of the Violin Concerto was in his best style. The Mendelssohn part of the concert terminated with the *Midsummer Night's Dream* interlude. The *Notturno* was most charmingly played, and the grand Wedding March was loudly re-demanded, and fitly brought up the rear of the Mendelssohn harmonies.

To the miscellaneous music of the concert the most welcome additions have been a selection from Meyerbeer's *Pietro il Grande*, and Verdi's *Il Trovatore*. Several of the dance pieces of last season, such as the *Echo de Mont Blanc*, and the *Sledge Polka*, the *Emperor*, and *Atlantic Galop*, are popular favourites. A Beethoven night is announced for Monday.

Miss Dolby gave a *soirée musicale* on Thursday,

the programme of which contained an excellent selection of classical music, interspersed with ballads and romances, old and new. Another of these agreeable concerts, where some of our best vocal and instrumental performers usually assist Miss Dolby, will be given on the 20th instant.

The season of the Amateur Musical Society commenced auspiciously at the Hanover-square Rooms this week, when various original and selected works were performed. A pianoforte Concerto by Mr. Waley was received with much favour, and was most creditable to the composer. The selected works of Haydn, Beethoven, Auber, and other masters, were admirably performed, Mr. Henry Leslie being the orchestral conductor. Madame Pauer was the solo vocalist; and several German part-songs were given with much effect, especially Kück's 'Norman's Song.' Mlle. Angelina is to play Mr. Sterndale Bennett's Fourth Concerto in F minor at the next concert. The band seems in good order this season.

The appointment of Mr. Sterndale Bennett to the directorship of the Philharmonic Concerts has given general satisfaction, and we are certain that this recognition of native talent and taste will not be regretted by the subscribers.

Madame Lind Goldschmidt's first appearance at Exeter Hall is on Monday next, when Haydn's *Creation* is to be given.

At Edinburgh, in addition to the operatic company referred to last week, there is announced a series of concerts and oratorios, including a performance of Handel's *Messiah*, for which the chief vocalists are Madame Clara Novello, Miss Huddart, Mr. Winn, and Herr Reichardt. Sivori and Piatti are among the instrumental performers.

"Signora Ristori," writes a correspondent from Dresden, "has paid us a short visit, and has gone through the severe ordeal of appearing in one of the favourite plays of the best loved and best known German authors, before a very fastidious and critical audience. To those who have already seen this great actress, I need hardly say that she had a triumphant success, proving, as Auerbach remarks in a critique just published on her acting, that 'the true appreciation and understanding of the beautiful in art is cosmopolitan.' Signora Ristori selected Maffei's translation of Schiller's *Mary Stuart* to make her appearance on the Dresden stage. Her first reception was not very flattering; the Dresden public is so well educated, and at the same time so fastidious and critical, that it awards its praise charily and with great caution; but it soon warmed before the exquisite grace of Ristori's movements, the beautiful enunciation of her liquid words; her eyes now flashing forth fire in moments of intensest passion, and then melting into the deepest tenderness; electrifying her audience as Mary Stuart, the imperious queen, taunting and defying her haughty rival; and carrying with her the tenderest sympathy, as Mary Stuart, the sad and chaste woman, invoking the 'swift-winged clouds, pilgrims of the sky,' being wafted to the land of her birth. Madame Ristori was loudly called for three or four times at the end of every act. She played in a comic a ter-piece, called *I gelosi fortunati*, in which, if possible, she evinced more talent, and more complete mastery over her art, than in her representation of the unfortunate Scottish queen."

At the Olympic a new farce, or rather an adaptation of a French piece, entitled *Five Pounds Reward*, gives scope for a good display of Mr. Robson's intense acting, in personating the distraction of a nervous husband, who has lost his watch under suspicious though innocent circumstances. The terror of the poor man is vividly represented, and his agitation reaches a ludicrous acme, when his wife gets placards printed offering 5*l.* reward for recovering the watch. The moral of the piece is the avoidance of any imprudence by which domestic comfort and harmony may be endangered. The other parts are well played; but the interest of the piece centres in the nervous terror of poor Mr. Bostlethwaite, which is wonderfully represented by Mr. Robson.

At the Haymarket, Mr. Buckstone has returned, with Miss Reynolds, and also the Spanish Dancers.

The Busybody was the piece on Monday evening, and Mr. Buckstone, as *Marplot*, was as amusing as ever.

At Drury Lane, on the benefit night of the lessee, Mr. E. T. Smith, on Thursday, the programme included *Katherine and Petruchio*, *Patter versus Clatter*, and a variety of entertainments, by which a crowded house was attracted.

A comedy in five acts, called *La Joconde*, by M. Paul Fouché and Regnier the actor, has been produced at the Théâtre Français at Paris, has been applauded, and is praised by the theatrical *feuilletonists*, but our own letters do not speak very highly of it. The heroine, who, by the way, is very well played by Madame Plessy, is, as usual now-a-days on the Paris stage, one of that vile class that cannot be named. How strange it is that this sort of women should possess such fascination over Parisian dramatists! At the Porte Saint Martin a melodrama, called *La Boulangère à des Ecus*, has been brought out; and, as every reader of French history knows, *La Boulangère* was no saint. According to our Paris letters, there is a talk of reviving at the Français, Alfred de Vigny's version of *Othello* and the *Merchant of Venice*, also his *Chatterton* and *La Marchale d'Ancre*.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ANTIQUARIES.—Nov. 29th.—The Earl Stanhope, president, in the chair. Mr. William Monk was elected Fellow; Miss Grant communicated, through Dr. John Lee, two ancient arrow-heads of flint, found in Morayshire; Mr. Henry Harrod, local secretary for Norfolk, communicated 'An account of Excavations at Burgh Castle, in Suffolk, undertaken at the expense of Sir John Boileau, Bart.' The result has plainly shown that this ancient castrum had a wall on the west side.

ASIATIC.—Nov. 17th.—Major-General Sykes in the chair; Sir F. Currie, Bart., Major-General Brown, C.B., and Dr. J. D. Macbride, were elected members of the society. The Assistant-Secretary read a paper, by Captain Ormsby, of the Indian navy, upon the epigraphs of the Nimrud obelisk. It will be in the remembrance of those who have followed the course of Assyrian discovery, that Colonel Rawlinson, six years ago, read at a meeting of the Society a translation of the inscription upon this obelisk, which was printed in the early part of the year 1850, detailing the expeditions undertaken by the king who erected the monument, during thirty-one years of his reign. Around the obelisk there were five series of sculptured figures, all representing processions of objects presented to the king by conquered potentates, as tributes of their submission to his power. In the translation above-mentioned, Colonel Rawlinson merely gave general notices of the articles thus presented, which consisted, as he said, of "gold and silver, pearls and gems, ebony and ivory;" perhaps also of "rare woods, or aromatic gums, or metals; and of horses and camels, the latter being described as beasts of the desert, with double back." The object of Captain Ormsby's paper was to particularize the articles of tribute thereon represented; in doing which he availed himself of all that had been published when the translation of Colonel Rawlinson appeared, and showed that he was an independent worker in the field of Assyrian research, with the laudable ambition to which we should be glad to see more learned men making a claim. The date of the obelisk is placed by Captain Ormsby about the year 868 B.C., the king having defeated Ben-hadad of Syria, in his eleventh year, and Hazael in his sixteenth year; and having reigned sixteen years after that campaign, as recorded on the monument. He then proceeded to analyze the words contained in the epigraphs over each row of figures by philological arguments, which need not be given here. The results of his reading gave us as the translation of the first epigraph, the following words:—"The tribute received from Shema,

King of Gozan—silver, gold, precious stones, bright copper vessels, horses for the king, camels, ivory." The second epigraph he reads:—"Tribute of Jehu, the son of Beth Omri; silver and gold; gold vases for the ceremony of the solstice, gold rings or seals, gold and pearls, brilliants, ointment, and oil of Sheba." Captain Ormsby pronounces the features of the tribute-bearers on this row to be "graphically Jewish," thus corroborating the reading which ascribes the tribute to one of the kings of Israel. The third is "Tribute received from the foreign country;" camels, ivory, elephants, apes, white bulls, rhinoceroses." The fourth, a "Tribute of Sutadan of Shekai; silver, gold, pearls, gold ingots, oil of Sheba; all choice articles; all choice articles of... The fifth, which closed Captain Ormsby's paper, he reads:—"Tribute of Barhagrada of the Shetani (the Cherethiti of the Bible); silver, gold, precious stones, copper ingots, copper cups, wood of Sheba." The chairman stated to the meeting that he had the pleasure to announce Colonel Rawlinson's assent to give his valuable aid to the Society as Joint-Secretary with Mr. Clarke. It was not within the function of the council to decide finally upon the appointment; but, as a provisional measure, and awaiting the vote of the anniversary meeting, of the result of which there could be no doubt, they had rejoiced at enlisting among their officers so efficient an Orientalist and successful discoverer. This announcement was received with much gratification by the meeting.

R. S. OF LITERATURE.—Nov. 28th.—Sir J. Doratt, V.P., in the chair. Mr. Vaux read a paper communicated by W. K. Loftus, Esq., 'On the Excavations undertaken by him in the Ruins of Susa, in 1851-2.' Mr. Loftus pointed out the peculiar interest which had from time immemorial attached to the great mounds at Susa, as the site, doubtless, of the 'Shushan of Queen Esther and the Book of Daniel,' or the campaigns and conquests of Alexander the Great. Many travellers had, in consequence, visited them, among whom were Sir Robert Gordon, Mr. McDonald Kinneir, and Colonel Rawlinson, but no one had hitherto been able to subject these mounds to the systematic investigation pursued by Mr. Layard in the similar ones at Nineveh. At length, in 1851, Mr. Loftus, who had been attached as geologist to the commission for settling the boundaries of Turkey and Persia, under Colonel (now Major-General) Williams, C.B., was permitted by that officer to superintend the excavations which Colonel Rawlinson had been authorized by the British Government to undertake at Susa at the public expense; and he accordingly commenced under that officer's directions, a series of excavations which led to the discovery of the remains of a vast building 343 feet in length, and 244 feet in depth, and consisting of a central square of thirty-six columns with square bases, flanked on the west, north, and east, by a similar number with bell-shaped bases, the latter being arranged in groups of twelve, or in double rows containing six each. It is very remarkable that the plan and measurements of the colonnade agree completely with those of the Great Hall of Xerxes at Persepolis; and there are good grounds for supposing that both edifices were designed (though not finished) by the same architect. On the bases of more than one of the pedestals were found trilingual inscriptions in the cuneiform character, in which the names of Artaxerxes, Darius, and Xerxes, have been read. On the edge of the mound, and only just under the surface soil, was also found a collection of Cufic coins, many of which, from the sharpness of their preservation, could hardly have been in circulation. Besides the colonnade-mound, Mr. Loftus excavated parts of other mounds, on one of which it is probable that the citadel, mentioned by Arrian, originally stood; on one of these, which he calls the central platform, Mr. Loftus found the remains of other buildings, and on the base of a column, a Greek inscription, recording the names of Pythagoras, the son of Aristarchus, one of the royal body-guard, and

stating that Arreneides was governor of Susiana. In conclusion it may be remarked, that these researches can only be considered as a good commencement of a thorough examination of these enormous mounds. Much more remains to be done, and much deeper excavations to be made ere this important work can be completed. At the end of the paper, Colonel Rawlinson pointed out the great value of the Scythic cuneiform records which had been discovered by Mr. Loftus, as the sole memorials of a dynasty of whom we have no other remains. He stated that, as yet, these inscriptions had not been satisfactorily read; but that the people to whom they belonged were apparently connected on one side with the Scythian, on the other with the Hamite tribes. It is remarkable that one of the royal names found at Susa, as well as on many monuments along the eastern shores of the Persian Gulf, is Tirhak; the same title as that of the Ethiopian prince Tirhakah, who is mentioned in the Bible. Probably the head quarters of the real Cushites was at Susa.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Nov. 28.—T. J. Pettigrew, F.R.S., F.S.A., V.P., in the chair. Twenty-one new associates were reported. Several donations to the Illustration Fund from H. R. H. Prince Albert and others were announced. Many presents from societies, authors, and publishers, were laid upon the table. A communication from Sir Charles Fellows was read, giving an account of the opening of an ancient British barrow, about three miles to the N.W. of Newport, Isle of Wight. An immense quantity of flints, charcoal, ashes, and the remains of two cinerary urns were discovered. Mr. Pettigrew exhibited a silver and a gold ring belonging to Lady Fellows, the former a brooch ring of the fifteenth century, having inscribed, 'In hope is help,' the other, of the same, or rather later period, with an engraved figure of St. Michael slaying the dragon, and an inscription, 'Tout pour vous.' Mr. P. also exhibited on the part of Lady F., the portrait of Charles I., worked in silk by the Princess Mary, which was laid before the late congress in the Isle of Wight, and described by Mr. Cumming in the last number of the Journal. Mr. Jervoise exhibited, through Captain Tupper, the remains of a life-size portrait on oak panel, said to be of Charles I. It is in the style of Vandycke, but certainly anterior to his time, as shown by the costume being that of the reign of Elizabeth, or the early part of James I. Mr. O'Connor exhibited a fine specimen of a cross in silver, of the fourteenth century, beautifully wrought. It is the archetype of what is now known and sold as 'Pugin's Cross.' Each limb of the cross terminates in a quatre foil. On one side is the crucified Saviour, and on the other the Virgin and Child. Mr. Clarke exhibited a penny of Stephen, and another of Edward I. found at Framlingham; also a token found at Bradeston, 'John Knight of Saxmundham,' and a model of Charles I., by Pass, found at Woodbridge. Mr. Barrow exhibited a Chinese brass coin dug up at Glendalough, near Dublin. It is not of ancient date, having in Chinese characters the name of the Emperor Keen Lung. The Europeans know this coinage as 'Cash,' the proper name, however, being Tséen. Mr. Planché read a short paper on a remarkable sculptured slab of the eleventh or early part of the twelfth century, found in Shalfleet Church in the Isle of Wight. It represents a shield and lance of the early period to which it belongs, and has hitherto escaped observation. Sir Gardner Wilkinson communicated a very learned and elaborate paper, accompanied by numerous coloured drawings, on Etruscan tombs, giving an account of one esteemed image discovered by the Marchese Campana, at Cervetri, the ancient Core. A portion only of the paper being read, we reserve our account of it until the next meeting. The chairman informed the meeting that the council had received various representations relative to a proposed demolition of some remains of the ancient fortifications of Southampton, together with the remarkable and interesting Orcades, visited by the

Association in August last. As these remains offer some of the most interesting specimens of mediæval fortification in the country, and are highly important in a historical and antiquarian point of view, it was resolved to address the mayor and corporation with a view to their preservation.

STATISTICAL.—Nov. 19th.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Harrowby, President, in the chair. James Brown, Esq., and John Jackson Gosset, Esq., were elected Fellows. Mr. Leone Levi read a 'Résumé of the Second Session of the International Statistical Congress, held at Paris, September, 1855.' The author first noticed the increased deference paid to statistical science. The first international congress was held at Brussels in 1853, the second at Paris in September last. It was attended by statists from twenty-nine states, —viz., the United Kingdom, Austria, Baden, Bavaria, Belgium, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Frankfort, Greece, Hamburg, Hanover, Hesse, Mecklenburg, Norway, the Netherlands, Parma, Peru, Portugal, Prussia, Sardinia, Saxony, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tuscany, the Two Sicilies, the United States, and Württemburg. The congress was divided into four sections: The first, to consider the formation of a nosological table of deaths, and the statistics of insanity, epidemics, and accidents; the second, to consider the statistics of agriculture, ways of communication, and of foreign commerce; the third, to consider the statistics of civil justice, of crimes and punishments, and of penitentiary establishments; and the fourth, to consider the statistics of provident institutions, and of large cities. The congress was of opinion that in each country there should be a statistical board, comprising the heads of the various departments of the state, and others eminent for their statistical attainments, so that the statistics of the country might be published on an uniform plan. The congress agreed to a system of nomenclature of diseases, and prepared a vocabulary of the causes of death in Latin, English, German, French, Italian, and Swedish. The congress recommend the collection of agricultural statistics by salaried agents, and lay much stress on the necessity of correct maps. The month of May or June for grain, and December for cattle, are recommended to the inquirers. The returns of criminal statistics in the United Kingdom had of late gradually deteriorated. Information is wanted on the working of police courts in towns, and of justices of the peace in rural districts.

GEOLICAL.—Nov. 7th.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair. William Harrison, Esq., was elected a Fellow. The following communications were read:—1. 'On the Coal of the North-Western Districts of Asia Minor.' By H. Poole, Esq., communicated by the Foreign Office. Mr. Poole, in his reports to the Government on the result of his journey to Asia Minor, to examine into the probability of workable coal being found in the country near Brussa and Ghio (Bithynia), in which coal has been reported to occur, states that he travelled from Ghio to the Lake Ascania, and around its shore, without finding any trace of coal; then from Yalova inland to Ortaköy, with like result. He next went from Yalova westwards along the coast as far as Korniköy, where a bed of lignite, nine inches thick, was worked to some extent by the Armenians four years since; thence he went inland to Sulmani without seeing any indications of coal. In consequence of rumours of the existence of coal near the Lake of Apollonia, Mr. Poole travelled round that lake, but met with none. Mr. Poole next went from Yalova south-eastward to Tchougoorkoi, where lignite, varying from one to four feet in thickness, and dipping at a high angle, has been also worked by the Armenians. This lignite is of no promise. Another excursion was to the Lake Sabandja, where a thin seam of lignite crossing the road on the south of the lake, and a lignite at Ag Sophie, to the east of the lake, were visited. Nowhere did Mr. Poole find proof of the existence of good workable coal in the districts visited.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Geographical, 8½ p.m.—(1. Notes on the Geography of Central Africa, from the late Researches of Livingston, Monteiro, Garcia, and other Authorities. By James Macqueen, Esq., F.R.G.S. 2. Geographical Notes on Siam, with a New Map of the lower part of the Menam River. By Harry Parkes, Esq., F.R.L.S.)

— Architectural Museum, 8 p.m.—(On the Formation of a National Museum of Architectural Art. By C. Bruce Allen, Esq.)

Tuesday.—Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—(Discussion upon Mr. Hopkins's Paper on the Gold-bearing Rocks of the World, and on the Causes of the Explosions in Steam Boilers. By Mr. R. K. Hall.)

— Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.

— Zoological, 9 p.m.

— Syro-Egyptian, 7½ p.m.—(1. Dr. Benisch, Identification of the Jappuach, or Citron of the Feast of Tabernacles, with the Ceremonial Fruit of the Assyrians. 2. Mr. Ainsworth, Illustration of Capt. F. Jones's Maps of Assyria.)

Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.—(Mr. J. Bailey Dissertation on the Progress and Results of the Under-drainage of Land in Great Britain.)

— Graphic, 8 p.m.

— British Archæological, 8½ p.m.—(1. Sir Gardner Wilkinson on Etruscan Tombs, continued. 2. Mr. H. Syer Cuming on the Mazer. 3. Mr. Shaw on Roman Coins found at Andover. 4. Mr. Bateman on Anglo-Saxon Coins found near Carlisle. 5. Mr. Baigent on the Lymerston Family.)

— Ethnological, 8½ p.m.—(1. On the Tegumentary Differences which exist amongst the Races of Man. By Robert Dunn, Esq., F.E.S. 2. On the Recovery of Ancient British Oral Records. By G. B. Beaumont, Esq., M.A.)

— Literary Fund, 3 p.m.

— R.S. of Literature, 4½ p.m.

Thursday.—Royal, 8½ p.m.

— Antiquaries, 8 p.m.

Friday.—Astronomical, 8 p.m.

Saturday.—Asiatic, 2 p.m.

— Medical, 8 p.m.

VARIETIES.

Origin of American Book-Trade Sales.—At the epoch of our Revolution, there were in the United States, from the first settlement of the Colonies, but about one hundred and fifty publishers and booksellers. From this time, down to the days of the late Matthew Carey, of Philadelphia, the improvements made, either in the art or extension of publishing, were not of exceeding importance. But in 1801, that gentleman, distinguished alike by thought, culture, and business capabilities, profiting by the examples of the great book-fairs of Frankfort and Leipsic, contemplated a plan of a similar fair, to be held annually in this country; issued circulars to all persons immediately concerned in the trade, inviting them to meet in the city of New York, on the first day of June, 1802.

The meeting was convened on the appointed day. Mr. Carey's project was explained, and favourably received. The publishers formed a kind of association, with Hugh Gaine as president, which had for its object the reciprocal buying, selling, and exchanging of each other's publications. During several years afterwards, annual fairs of this kind were held in New York and Philadelphia. In process of time, however, the trade became dissatisfied with its workings, and abandoned it. More than twenty years after this result, the distinguished American philosopher and political economist, Henry C. Carey, Esq., a son of Matthew Carey, established the present system of trade sales. It is said that in association and unity there is strength. With the American publishers so it has been; and if a few of them have occasionally opposed each other, the losses which they respectively sustained, by a foolish and ill-advised system of warfare, will only confirm the truth of this remark; while it will, assuredly, establish the wisdom and necessity of a perfect understanding, and friendly business intercourse, between the various firms and members of the publishing business throughout the Republic. In no other country in the world are the condition and prospects of the book publisher so secure as in this.—*American Literary Gazette.*

The Works of Noah Webster.—It is supposed that with the exception of the Bible, the lexicographic works of Noah Webster have the largest circulation of any books in the English language. Nearly twelve hundred thousand copies of Webster's Spelling-book were sold by one firm in this city last year, and it is estimated that more than ten times as many are sold of Webster's Dictionaries as of any other series in this country. Four-fifths of all the school books published in the United States are said to own Webster as their standard. The State of New York has placed 10,000 copies of Webster's Unabridged in as many of her public schools. Massachusetts has, in like manner, supplied 3,248 of her schools; and Wisconsin and New Jersey have provided for all their schools.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

Macaulay's History.—It is rumoured that the twenty-five thousand copies of Macaulay which have been printed, will not meet the supply on the day of publication, and that the press is already at work on a second impression. Our readers will share our surprise when they hear that the weight of the Macaulays to be issued to the trade on the 17th, is estimated at no less than fifty-six tons. Surely this is a fact unparalleled in the history of publishing!—*Notes and Queries.*

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